NLB 178.003
Newsletter, bound vols 7-9

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7, No. 1 W. H. FAIRBANK - EDITOR Jan., 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

FORESTRY

## "MENDOCINO WOODLANDS" MAIN CONSIDERATION OF BOARD OF FORESTRY

The California State Board of Forestry met on January 16 in San Francisco and discussed during its morning session the Mendocino Woodlands Recreation Area use problems. This recreational demonstration unit in Mendocino County, a developement of the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, was recently deeded to the State of California, Division of Forestry by the U.S. Government. The problem being considered by the Board concerns the recreational use of three group camping areas on the property. In accepting the government quit claim deed for the property the State Department of Finance ruled that no State funds could be expended on the actual operation or maintenance of the group camping facilities. In view of this rule the Board is seeking an organization with which it can contract the financial and administrative responsibility for the actual camp operation. Interested in such a contract were several organizations, the San Francisco Bay Cities Baptist Union, Columbia Park Boys Club, The Y.W.C.A., Mendocino Teachers Association, Mendocino County, and the Hayward Recreational District. All of these agencies expressed a desire to review the wording of a contract for camp operation before making commitments. At the conclusion of the discussion the Board advised the organizations that a policy statement would be made and a representative contract drawn up that would be submitted to each of the organizations concerned in the near future.

The Board also heard discussions by the State Forester of the Division's 40-Hour Week Plan; the budget hearing before the Department of Finance, and the acquisition and exchange of State school lands with organizations concerned.

The Board adopted a resolution in memory of Dana Gray, Logging Superintendent of the Union Lumber Company, whose untimely death occurred on November 22. Mr. Gray, well known in the redwood region and throughout California, was a member of the Redwood Forest Practice Committee.

The February meeting of the Board of Forestry is to be held in Sacramento on February 26 and 27. The meeting will be a joint one between the Board of Forestry and the Fish and Game Commission.

## METCALF'S CONDITION IMPROVING

A recent letter from the State Forester announced the illness and confinement in the hospital of our Deputy, C.E. Metcalf. Mr. Metcalf's condition is very much improved and he is expected to be released from the hospital today. The nature of his illness will require a recouperation period, but if we are any judge of Cecil's constitution and will power, he will be back on the job soon. We are extremely happy that his case was not as serious as was believed and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

State governments in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946, appropriated a total of $19,921,857 for forestry purposes, as contrasted with a federal appropriation of $34,006,500 for the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. The largest state appropriation was California's $5,235,715, over three times that of any other state and over a fourth of the total of all states. Kansas was the only state that made no appropriation for forestry. Wyoming appropriated only $500. Appropriations for fire prevention and fire fighting formed 59% of the state funds. Over 87% of Ohio's $1,751,000 appropriation was for purchase of forest land.

National Resources Notes, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, December, 1947

CALIFORNIA'S STATE TREE

Recently we had a request for information regarding California's State Tree. An investigation showed, to our surprise, that California has two State Trees. It seems that a bill was introduced in the Legislature in 1937 to officially designate the coast redwood, Sequoia sempervirens, as the State Tree. Representatives of the people in the Sierra Nevada areas objected to limiting the honor to the coast species and amended the bill. It was finally passed as Chapter 29 of the Statutes of 1937, which states that the people of California designate and adopt the "California redwood" as the State Tree of California.

----O----

The Winton Lumber Company recently logged a 32-foot long, ponderosa pine log which scaled 9,300 board feet, according to the woods boss of Amador County operation. To save you looking it up in your forest practice booklet, the log must have averaged about 6½ feet in diameter, not counting the butt swell.

George A. Craig
Forest Technician

RESULTS OF THE "MILK DRIVE"

The results of our drive for contributions to help fill the hold of the California Golden Bear Milk Ship with canned milk for the starving children of France, Germany and Italy were very gratifying, especially in consideration of the short time allowed to make the collections.

All Division of Forestry personnel at the Sacramento Headquarters at work on this date were contacted. Contributions totaled $53.73 including $5.75 from the Forestry Equipment Personnel at Davis.

With this amount over 9 cases (448 cans) of milk will be purchased and sent to these starving children.

Thomas M. Stetson
Assistant Forestry Engineer

FOLLOWING IS A COPY OF A LETTER RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND A COPY OF MR. ARONSTEIN'S REPLY

CASY'S

California and Tehama Streets

Redding, California

Jan 13 1948

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BILLING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Z ANY DEPARTMENT Z

MAKE OUT SIX (6) COPIES OF EVERY THING EXCEPT THE POSTAGE STAMPS ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE.

SEND EVERY ADDRESS AT LEAST TWO (2) COPIES BILL THEM EVERY FEW DAYS SEND MORE DUPLICATES TRIPLICATED QUADRIPLICATES. IF IT IS NOT PAID WITHIN SIX MONTHS HAVE PHOTOSTATIC COPIES MADE OF THE ORIGINAL BILLING AND SEND AT LEAST THREE (3) COPIES TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT BEGINNING WITH THE GOVERNOR AND CONTINUEING WITH MAILINGS UNTIL SOME DEPARTMENT BEGINS TO PAY OFF. (THE PERCENTAGE IS BETTER THAN YOU WOULD EXPECT AFTER THE FIRST SIX MONTHS)

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME? THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND THE WHOLE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ARE KIND OF "FARMER" GROUPS AND PAY OFF JUST ABOUT LIKE ALL RURAL ORGANIZATIONS ** YOU CAN EXPECT TO GET SQUARED UP WITH THEM ABOUT ONCE A YEAR, IF YOU ARE DILLIGENT IN THE ART OF MAKING CARBON COPIES AND DON'T RUN OUT OF POSTAGE.**

WE DO NOT EXPECT TO SHOW A PROFIT IN HANDLING ANY ACCOUNT FOR THE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES. THEY ARE STRICTLY AN ACCOMODATION. THE FELLOWS WHO DO THEIR PURCHASING ARE SUCH NICE PEOPLE AND BESIDES WE NEED SOMETHING TO DO ON RAINY DAYS.

SO FAR WE HAVE NOT LOST AN ACCOUNT WITH ANY AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT BUT THAT DON'T MEAN WE HAVE NOT LOST MONEY.

BE CAUTIOUS * ONE SLIP OF THE PENCIL AND PAYMENT WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION*

BE PERSERVERING * WE HAVE OBTAINED ALL THE PAYMENTS THAT WERE DUE US EXCEPT FOR A FEW THAT GOT SO OLD AND UNREADABLE THAT WE COULD NOT DECIPHER THE WRITING ON THEM.

REMEMBER THE MAINE * FIFTY FOUR FORTY OR FIGHT* KILL THE KAISER * REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR * WERE ONLY COMPARABLE TO REMEMBER THE ALAMO WHEN IT COMES TO OUR SLOGAN AND THAT IS " GET THE MONEY IF IT TAKES ALL YEAR."

CASY

January 19, 1948

Casy's
California and Tehama Streets
Redding, California

Gentlemen

We have your statement of January 9, 1948, showing an amount of $195.19 due you from this Department and we also have received your special billing instructions issued on January 13, 1948, in regard to securing payments from the State of California.

Your instructions were digested with a great deal of relish and the writer feels a true bond of fellowship with one who is so cognizant with matters of state--especially along accounting lines. Your reference to the Department of Natural Resources and its various Divisions as a "farmer group" was especially apt. We of the Department feel the dignity of our surroundings with awe and veneration--the beautiful forests; the bounding streams with their plentiful trout tucked away in hiding to tempt the hook of the fisherman; the venerable Redwoods--even gas and oil--Nature produces in a slow and dignified manner.

Another phase of the subject that is particularly applicable is the fact that the staff of the Department of Natural Resources works under a very strict setup of regulations--such regulations are drafted by the governing departments of the state--the heads of such governing departments are elected by the people--which more or less puts the problem right back into your hands.

In reference to your statement, we find that our records show the following:

Purchase Order 1288 cleared this office on January 5, and as soon as the warrant is received from the State Controller, it will be mailed to you.

Purchase Order 34940 is in our file, but does not as yet have an invoice upon which we can make payment--perhaps your billing department has overlooked this item.

Purchase Order 11052 was paid to you by State Warrant F47764 in the amount of $80.00. This warrant was mailed to you on November 28, 1947, and the original on file in the Office of the State Controller shows your stamped endorsement. It was honored by the Anglo National Bank of Redding on December 1, 1947--your credit department must have overlooked this payment.

Very truly yours,

D. H. Blood
Deputy Director-Comptroller

by
E. Aronstein
Departmental Accounting Officer

08

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### 1947 REDWOOD SEED CROP DELIVERED

District I has responded to the S.O.S. for seed sent out by the Forest Managers office last fall.

Some 50 pounds of cleaned redwood seed (sequoia ~~sempervirens~~ semperirrens that is) has been received by Sacramento. Distribution of this seed will be made by the Forest Manager's office.

The Humboldt County boys are largely responsible for the collection of this large amount of Redwood seed. Only squirrel-cut cones are collected. The viability of cones cut by the squirrels is generally much higher than that collected on logging operations.

Redwood cones are collected, dried in the attic of the Humboldt County Headquarters garage and cleaned in a homemade Rube Goldburg type seed cleaner. Redwood seed does not have wings like many other conifers. Particles of resin are separated from the seed during the cleaning process.

It takes about ~~two~~ 7 pounds of green redwood cones to yield one pound of seed. This of course varies with the cone size. There are supposed to be 162,200 redwood seeds per pound. We don't know we haven't counted them.

Arnold F. Wallen
Forest Technician

NEW FOREST ADVISORS FOR DISTRICT I

Two new Forest Advisors have reported for work in District I.

Assistant Technicians Bob Maclean and Eric Jakobson will work on Farm Forestry and Forest Practices. One of these men will handle the Sonoma County Farm Forestry job previously administered by the Soil Conservation Service and later by the U.S. Forest Service.

Arnold F. Wallen
Forest Technician

NEWS FROM DISTRICT III

THE VALUE OF STATISTICS?

Ranger Sloat after considerable quizzing has finally broken down regarding the cigarette butt count on the highway #40 right-of-way. He has divulged that there were four empty wine bottles observed along the same 100 yard strip. The reason this vital information was not made public prior to this date was Deputy Dunow was reluctant to release the information for fear of enticing certain specific characters from the District V staff into requesting transfers to Placer County.

William E. Merle
Assistant Ranger

STATE FORESTER MEETS WITH DISTRICT III FIELD PERSONNEL

State Forester DeWitt Nelson was the luncheon guest of District III's Rangers and staff at their two-day Rangers' meeting which was held February 3 and 4. After lunch Mr. Nelson met with the group and during the following three hours held an informal discussion of such topics as Forest Practice, 40 Hour Week, Radio, Post-War Building, etc.

The District III staff wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Nelson for a very enjoyable visit.

The two-day Rangers' meeting was considered the best this District has ever had.

William E. Merle
Assistant Ranger

FROM DISTRICT IV

WHO IS TO BLAME FOR AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS?

Having been one of the many Division employees who had more than one accident during the 97th and 98th fiscal years makes me wonder how many of these employees are in the same category in which I am placed. Both the accidents with which I am charged were solely the result of carelessness on the part of the operators of the other vehicles. These people were cited for violation of the traffic laws and, without a doubt, the State recovered full cost of repairs to the State vehicle. Statistics are good as long as they reflect a true picture, otherwise they are misconstrued.

Un.T. Hatobian
Assistant Deputy State Forester

NEWS RELEASE - FROM THE DESERT RAT

1. Kings County continues to be a dust bowl, we have only had about fifty one hundredth of an inch of rain, fires are burning as good now as in August.

2. We are in the process of constructing two fire stations and rebuilding two old fire trucks and one new high pressure truck.

3. Mr. Ellis Evans of Corcoran was arrested under 625 A P C for calling in a false alarm fire December 31, 1947. He will plead before the Superior Judge in Hanford at a later date. This is a very serious offense and should be a lesson to the general public.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI

Upon perusal of Mr. Fairbank's directive contained in the November and December News Letter, our Deputy took the bull by the horns and has delegated one person to see that items of interest from District VI are forwarded for release in the News Letter. It appears as though everyone has depended on everyone else to submit reports of activities in this District -- hence few reports from District VI. It is hoped that Mr. Fairbank's letter to the field brings results from all Districts as we believe the News Letter is a very worthwhile circular and should be continued as it makes for closer association between the Districts of our large organizations. Of course, we in District VI could offer an excellant reason for such laxity -- the fault lying in our lovely Southern California weather with the temperature ranging from 75° to 85°. District VI employees have had spring fever all winter -- but now that the smudge pots are ablaze, District VI has come to life and has resolved to share their activities with the rest of the Division of Forestry.

District VI Headquarters had a nice Christmas luncheon at the Somerset House, and all employees received an envelope, enclosed therein were 6 acorns and

a note stating: - "To you woodsman of the State - May your forests be bigger in '48" - It's known that from an acorn the mighty oak tree - and speaking of oak trees, District VI is doing their utmost towards bigger and better forests, as just the other day a box car was ushered to Crusher Siding in San Bernardino containing 7000 cork oak seedlings for distribution to all Counties...in addition to these 7000 seedlings, several thousand acorns have been planted in the nursery at San Bernardino.

District VI Headquarters has become well enconced in their new offices at 6137 Magnolia Avenue. What with their new Assistant Deputy Gene Bertsch, Associate Ranger Jack D. Burke, and Assistant Forestry Engineer Neil Rice, the whole office personnel feel mighty smug and are extremely content with the whole arrangement. Gene Bertsch's wife breathed a sigh of relief when Gene was appointed to District VI Headquarters as now her husband would be home evenings — so what happens? Gene flies off to Sacramento for a week. Gene's promotion to Assistant Deputy left a pair of shoes to be filled in San Diego County, namely the Associate Ranger's position. Leonard Chatten fell heir to all of Gene's past trials and tribulations and we welcome Leonard into our District VI family, which family has increased by leaps and bounds. The proverbial bird was kept busy. A bouncing baby boy was delivered to both the Shay and Bennett home. Robert L. Shay, known to all his buddies as "Larry" is our Auto Mechanic in San Bernardino. Deane Bennett is an Assistant Ranger in Riverside County and is at the present time building his home in Perris. Deane is doing this job alone, whenever time allows, and he is doing quite well. John Hastings, Assistant Ranger in San Diego County presently attached to the Julian Insect Control, has been added to the roster of proud fathers. The Hastings recently became the pround parents of a baby girl. It has been rumored by a few prospective fathers that our summer crews will be augmented. Along with bigger and better forests in '48, it appears as though District VI is doing its bit towards bigger and better families also.

On January 21, Headquarters Office was honored by the presence of Henry Clepper from Washington D.C., Executive Secretary of the Society of American Foresters. After looking the situation over, Mr. Clepper's comment was: "It must be wonderful to live in Southern California when you have summer in the winter, however, I am glad that the fire problem isn't mine!" The fire problem is our Deputy's and on January 19 he became very excited when the relative humidity was reported as low as 6% with winds varying from 10 to 50 miles an hour and prevailed upon the generosity of the Fire Control Office to reinforce our fire control personnel during this emergency period. The Fire Control Office came through in grand fashion.

Our Julian Insect Control Project in San Diego County has been hampered only by the lack of rain. The Board of Supervisors of San Diego County has offered the Division of Forestry $2500 to aid in this project, making this a $10,000 program.

It is hoped that everyone had a very merry Christmas, as for San Diego and San Bernardino Counties, our boys there missed the holiday as they were very busy Christmas Eve and Christmas Day suppressing two raging fires, as vividly portrayed by Associate Ranger Tom Bryan in San Bernardino County in the following report:

'Twas the day before Christmas,
And all through the County
The north wind blew
Like Mutiny on the Bounty.
That's how it was
With the switchboard shrilling,
In the Dispatcher's room
At the end of the building.

The poem is crummy, but the ringing of the phones was real. That's the way the boys in San Bernardino spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. High north winds had been blowing for two weeks and December 24 was even a little worse, with winds at 40 M.P.H. and higher. The Devore fire started a little after 12:00 noon, and took off just like it was the fourth of July. Everything was rolled from the County, and the U.S.F.S. rolled all of theirs making a total of 12 tankers, 3 dozers, 40 c a a men, 12 U.S.F.S. and nearly all of San Bernardino County. Despite all the equipment and manpower the fire rolled over 250 acres by 6:00 P.M. A line was completely around it by 12:00 A.M. December 25, and held it in spite of high winds on the 25th. The last patrol was pulled off December 30.

If the fire had ever made a run up the mountain, which a change of winds for just a few minutes during the height of the fire could have done, the mountain resorts of Crestline and Arrowhead would have been seriously threatened as Devore is located at the foot of the range. The cause of the fire is still undetermined. So, the crews in San Bernardino County had a real Christmas present: sand in their stockings, smoke in their eyes, and blisters on their hands and feet.

The one consoling factor that was enjoyed by all was to see Jack "Spike" (Now known as Forked Horn) Burke, of the Headquarters Office leading a cat around the fire line, and he tells us he missed Santy Claus, too.

During 1947 San Bernardino County had 5.88 inches of rain, and so far in 1948 - none. So we can still have fires in the brush country.

District VI wishes everyone a happy and prosperous 1948.

Tom Bryan
Associate State Forest Ranger

TREE FARMS GAIN NEARLY 2,000,000 ACRES IN 1947

Nearly two million additional acres were enrolled under the tree farm banner in 1947 when 279 units with 1,942,282 acres were certified and reported to AFPI. Three states, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New Mexico held their first dedications during the year.

Greatest tree farm growth was again in the South, where 237 units with 1,302,686 acres were certified, raising the total for that region to 9,360,388 acres. Tennessee with 119 new units led the nation in number of tree farms certified, while Florida with 774,427 acres in new units outdistanced all other states in acreage.

The western pine region added 17 units with 122,919 acres in 1947. Certified acreage for that region is now 2,546,476 acres.

Close on the heels of western pine is the western fir region which added 345,843 acres swelling that region's total to 2,524,694 acres.

Missouri, West Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Michigan have announced plans to join the nation-wide tree-growing movement in 1948. The program is now operating in nineteen states, and 1,332 tree farms with 14,864,413 acres have been certified.

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

ANOTHER USE FOUND FOR REDWOOD BARK DUST

Research by the Pacific Lumber Company of Scotia, California, has developed a new and interesting use for redwood bark dust, a former waste product in the making of insulating material. John Alexander of Eureka, California, recently discovered that redwood bark dust makes a valuable fungicide for use in wineries. The Pacific Lumber Company finds that it is also useful in the petroleum industry.

It seems that oil field drillers have long had to rely upon tannin to lower the viscosity of oil mud. This has to be treated chemically to thin it to the point where it can be brought to the surface easily, yet viscous enough so that it will carry the cutting made by the drill out to the surface. By sampling the cuttings the driller knows when he has reached oil-bearing sands.

Now that tannin is in short supply, oil men has been keenly interested in finding a substitute. Redwood bark dust is made to yield a product which has been named sodium palconate, performing all the functions of tannic acid compounds and more. Tests with the new redwood derivative indicate that it is superior to any other oil mud thinner available. It is also believed that the new material may be used as a water softener and as a filtering agent for removing metallic salts from water. Furthermore, the new redwood byproduct appears to have certain applications in the oil flotation process, required in the reduction of certain ores.

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

TILTON URGES HEAVIER CUT FROM FEDERAL LANDS

Approximately 6 million acres of industrially owned forest land in the West are now definitely under management for permanent production, Warren G. Tilton, Forest Engineer for the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, said at the annual meeting of the western forestry and conservation association in Portland, Ore., December 11.

In an address entitled "Dynamic Forestry," Tilton went on to point out that an increased volume of timber must be drawn from mature public stands--on a sustained yield basis--if the present production in western Oregon and Washington is to be maintained in future decades.

"There are three things that may happen in the Douglas fir region", Tilton said.

"First, we may continue our present production for another 10 or 15 years, and then production will drop. This will continue for one or two decades

while the large areas that were cut over previous to 1930 are growing to usable size, unless the cutting budgets on national forest areas are increased.

"The second is that we can reduce our cut approximately 2 billion feet at the present time. That would bring us into balance with the allowable cut by ownership classes with our forest lands in their present condition and under past utilization standards. If this is done by individual ownerships, rather than ownership classes, the reduction would be even greater.

"Or third, we could increase the cut on the publicly owned areas to take care of this 2 billion foot annual shortage. This should be done for a 20 or 30-year period through cooperative units or other recognition of the growing capacity of the private lands which have furnished the timber needs of the country for the past 50 years. That would not mean seriously overcutting any of the working circles. It would make the over-mature areas dynamic, not static. It would do the job that the national forests were, in my opinion, originally created for, which is to take care of the nation's timber needs during periods when that timber is needed.

"How does all this add up ? There is not now and there will not be a shortage of saw timber in the West. Our present timber stands can fill our present markets. Any increase in demand for timber from this area will, in all probability, be taken care of by the betterment of our standards of utilization.

"Notice that I did not say there will not be a shortage of logs or products. But—any such shortage that should happen will be artifically created by too strict adherence to ideals and principles—definitely not by a shortage of raw material."

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

(Mr. Tilton died December 23, 1947, of a heart attack at his home in Seattle. He was 47 years of age.)

WEYERHAEUSER COLOR FILM TAKES HIGHEST HONORS

In competition with nearly one hundred industrial moving pictures produced by leading American companies, Weyerhaeuser technicolor film "Trees and Homes" was selected as one of the world's six outstanding public relations films entered in the films of the world contest held recently in Chicago.

Produced by James Fitzpatrick of travelogue fame,"Trees and Homes" has been shown to more than 15 million people and has had the distinction of appearing in first-run theatres in nearly all principal cities. More than 250 prints are required to meet current demand.

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

VIRGINIA HUNTERS URGED TO GROW MORE TREES

Frank A. Elliott, forester for Southern Johns-Manville, Jarratt, Virginia, has used permits for hunting on company land to carry a simple message of conservation. With each permit he gives a little envelope containing 150 loblolly pine seeds with the printed instructions: "Take this with you when you go hunting. The seeds in this envelope are from loblolly pine the most

important tree in southside Virginia. Properly planted in a good spot, they will grow into trees that will furnish work and income for everyone." Instructions then follow for planting in open spots, and on the reverse side can be a forest fire warning. It is not so much the seeds as the idea of reminding all hunters of the need for more trees. There are some seven million Virginia hunting licenses issued each year.

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

ATOMIC BOMB INCREASES JAP TREE GROWTHS

All trees which lived through the atomic bombing of Hiroshima showed two year's growth in 12 months, Bunriko University scientists reported to Kyodo News Agency.

Scientists could find no instances of increased crop production, such as other scientists reported recently from atom-bombed Nagasaki.

Trees which were still alive after the blast, the scientists said, grew two rings during the first year. Most plum trees, cherry, camphor and eucalyptus survived, but most pine and cryptomaria were killed.

Forestry Digest
January, 1948

With a total U.S. Cut of more than 3 billion feet of lumber, September topped any previous month this year, according to the N.L.M.A. which reports that supply is meeting immediate needs. Another recent report shows that retail lumber dealers' inventories are about 25% of normal on upper grades and about 70% of normal on common items.

Forest Management Information Memo #1
1-28-48

Lumber has been rated the third most essential item in the rehabilitation program for Europe. It is expected that the inauguration of the Marshall plan will prove a great stimulus to the lumber export trade.

Forest Management Information Memo #1
1-28-48

The large Weyerhaeuser Sales Company has reported a 10% price cut on most of its forest products, effective January 16.

Forest Management Information Memo #1
1-28-48

In 1946 the per capita consumption of paper in the U.S. was 316 pounds.

Forest Management Information Memo #1
1-28-48

## NEW TABLE CONVERTS VOLUMES BETWEEN LOG SCALE RULES

The table below has been developed by S. R. Gevorkiantz of the Lake States forest experiment station for converting volumes from the Scribner log rule to the international 1/4-inch rule and vice-versa. To convert volumes from the international 1/4-inch rule to those of the Scribner rule, multiply by the factors shown; to convert from Scribner to international 1/4-inch volumes, divide by the factors. For many purposes the average factor for the diameter class can be used. However, the converted values will fit the volume table closer if the individual factors for diameter breast height and number of logs are used.

Conversion Factors Between International 1/4-inch Rule and Scribner Rule

| Tree d.b.h. | Number of 16-foot logs per tree: ½ | 1 | 1½ | 2 | 2½ | 3 | 4 | Average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inches | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | .82 | .77 | .75 | ... | ... | ... | ... | .77 |
| 12 | .93 | .84 | .82 | .78 | ... | ... | .... | .82 |
| 14 | .95 | .89 | .87 | .83 | .87 | ... | ... | .87 |
| 16 | .92 | .89 | .88 | .88 | .90 | .91 | ... | .89 |
| 18 | .97 | .90 | .89 | .88 | .89 | .91 | .89 | .90 |
| 20 | .98 | .92 | .90 | .89 | .91 | .91 | .90 | .91 |
| 22 | .99 | .93 | .90 | .91 | .91 | .91 | .92 | .92 |
| 24 | 1.03 | .94 | .92 | .93 | .92 | .92 | .93 | .93 |
| 26 | 1.04 | .94 | .93 | .94 | .94 | .94 | .93 | .94 |
| 28 | 1.04 | .95 | .94 | .94 | .94 | .94 | .94 | .94 |
| 30 | 1.03 | .94 | .95 | .94 | .95 | .95 | .94 | .95 |
| 40 | .97 | .94 | .94 | .95 | .95 | .96 | .95 | .95 |

Stump height is one foot. The number of 16-foot logs is for average sawlog or utilization to a variable top not smaller than 8 inches inside bark.

It has been estimated that 15 to 18 million Chesitmas trees were cut in the U.S. last year.

Forest Management Information Memo #13
1-12-48

An average of 31 million acres of forest land is burned in the U.S. each year.

Forest Management Information Memo #13
1-12-48

Approximately 800,000 homes will be completed this year in the U.S. and 900,000 will have been started. Building costs, it is reported by one Trade organ, will stabilize at January 1948 levels.

Forest Management Information Memo #13
1-12-48

MORE NEWS FROM DISTRICT IV

J. D. RAFFERTY, FORESTRY INVESTIGATOR TAKES APPROXIMATELY THREE MONTHS LEAVE

J. D. Rafferty, Forestry Investigator takes approximately three months leave of absence in which time he plans to take care of personal business in the Philippines. The first stage of the journey will cover some 20,000 miles, and through which he hopes to repay some of the wartime kindness extended to his father. From San Francisco Rafferty left via Philippine Islands Airways for the long over water flight to Cebu, one of the Philippine islands. There he hopes to be able to find several of the natives of Cebu who aided his father in escaping the Japanese conquerors for three months in 1942 by hiding him out in the mountains and isolated farms. In spite of the efforts of the loyal natives, James J. Rafferty, now 84 years of age was eventually captured and spent three years in the infamous Santo Tomas internment camp.

While in the islands Dick will settle many business affairs for his father. Dick has promised to report back on his activities and will keep us up to date via news letter — All work and no play makes you know what, Dick — so find the recreation while you can, Dick!

News has just been received of the safe arrival of Dick in the Philippines.

William T. Jacobson
Assistant State Deputy Forester

TULARE COUNTY FIRE ORGANIZATION AMONG U. S. BEST

A. A. Ross, Engineer for the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific informed the Board of Supervisors of Tulare County that their county ranks among the four top counties of the nation on its rural fire protection. On the strength of the County Fire Protection System a reduction in rural fire insurance rates on structures will be recommended by Ross for the entire county.

This is a good record, Tulare County offers a high mark for other counties to shoot at.

William T. Jacobson
Assistant State Deputy Forester

NEW LOOKOUT TOWER FOR MERCED COUNTY

A new lookout tower is being built on top of Basalt Hill, 12 miles west of Los Banos, 5 miles south of the Pacheco Pass Highway. The elevation at the top of the hill is 1705 feet and the tower observation platform will be 20 feet above the ground at that point. Basalt Hill, north of three mountains, Mt. Ararat, Cathedral Peak and Mariposa Peak provides a view of the entire west side of the San Joaquin Valley. The new lookout will be under the administration of Ranger Arthur Moberg of Madera County and it should greatly increase fire protection of this area.

William T. Jacobson
Assistant State Deputy Forester

CONGRATULATIONS TO DON KNOWLTON

District IV is extending congratulations to Don Knowlton, Headquarters Associate Ranger, on the arrival of a son, Steve Russel. Don will be hard pressed with the increased obligations of trying to soothe a colicky baby at nights and run headquarters days. Don's official duties have been noticeably increased due to the present illness of our Deputy State Forester, C. E. Metcalf.

We in the District Headquarters, Don, want to wish you and the Mrs. a speedy recovery and want to extend the best welcome and heartiest greetings to "Steve" on his venture into his new domain, the world.

William T. Jacobson
Assistant State Deputy Forester

DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL, DICK SMITH, MAKES SAFETY INSPECTIONS OF PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLAGE IN TULARE COUNTY

On February 2, in company with Ranger Pennington and Deputy Fire Marshal Smith, I made a limited tour of Tulare County for the purpose of becoming familiar with requirements on safety precautions from a fire prevention standpoint in places of public assemblage.

This phase of prevention is a very important one in its effect on reducing contributing causes of fires in rural dwellings. It certainly would be seemingly an impossible task to cover thoroughly all rural buildings the inspection of which might be required by someone from the Fire Marshal's office. Deputy Smith is to be congratulated on his approach to the problem of inspections in his district.

An interesting side line was afforded when making an inspection of a temporary tent structure serving as a tabernacle. When I remarked to the attendant as to the fine attendance as shown by the bulletin board and also noted the offering donated by the Sunday School children, the attendant, after carefully eyeing Ranger Pennington and myself, inquired if we would like a collection taken up which would afford us a supply of groceries. To this I replied that all donations would be gratefully received but that, in spite of our gaunt appearance, we were really amply provided for in the way of groceries.

William T. Jacobson
Assistant State Deputy Forester

It is estimated that the volume of sawtimber presently available for commercial cutting in California totals 162 billion board feet.

Forest Management Information Memo #11
12-22-47

U.S. Forest Service has reported that the average timber loss from fire in California from 1940-1945 was 110 million feet per year.

Forest Management Information Memo #11
12-22-47

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol 7, No. 2 W.H. FAIRBANK-EDITOR F.J.SKEWES-ASST. EDITOR Feb., 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

FORESTRY

## STATE FORESTER REVIEWS FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

The optimistic weather reports that we read about in January did not materialize and California is held fast in the grip of a most serious winter drought. Water conditions remain critical in the area below San Francisco with the Southern San Joaquin Valley and Southern California laboring under serious conditions. Industry, agriculture, and water users in general are feeling the effects of subnormal conditions. Water and power conservation is on the tip of every one's tongue. Drastic measures are now in operation to conserve water and power in most all areas of the State. An extreme fire hazard in the watershed and forest lands of the State is in evidence and unless Spring rainfall alleviates the present situation, California will soon enter one of the earliest fire seasons to date. This Division and forest protective organizations in general are focusing maximum energy on the fire prevention job ahead of us. Efforts are being directed along two channels; the reduction of hazards in the field and the educational program with California's adults and children. Field forces of the Division will spend the majority of their time in March, April, and May in the reduction of field hazards along roadsides, railroads, dump grounds, sawmills, public and industrial sites, and around rural and public dwellings. They will work cooperatively with local people through all educational channels available to bring to their attention the need for proper cleanup and proper care with fire.

The State-wide educational effort, spearheaded by the California Fire Prevention Committee, will include the efforts of all governmental agencies, industrial groups, and civic and community organizations in a fight to call to the attention of every citizen the need for preventing fires in rural and mountain areas. The support of State-wide organizations and industry in this effort is most encouraging.

If general rains are not experienced by the end of March, it will be necessary to man fire suppresion crew stations at least two months ahead of the prescribed and budgeted fire season. This can be accomplished to a small degree by using man months savings from last summer due to the early rains in October in the Northern section of the State, however, a special appeal to the Department of Finance must be made to get budgetary authorization to support such crews to May 1 when our Spring allocation of funds becomes available.

The Division's effort to obtain motorized equipment continues this month with bids being circulated for the purchase of twenty-eight fire trucks and their pumping units of 250 GPM capacity. General Motors was awarded the bid to supply the chassis for the fire trucks and Van Pelt Company the pumping units. Bids have also been let to purchase sixty-one crew trucks and Dodge was awarded the contract for supplying the chassis and body. The pump units for these trucks

are to be supplied by the Van Pelt Company. It is the Division's goal to have all of this equipment into the field by July 1 of this year. It is hoped that the manufacturers will be able to meet our deadlines.

After much delay due to necessary conferences with radio manufacturers, the Division's radio program is now under way. Service agreements for exchange of the present equipment have been drawn and sent to the vendors for signature. It is regrettable that this important phase of fire control activities has been delayed as from all indications the Division will be in need of every piece of radio equipment this coming fire season.

The Forest Manager's Office this month conducted an examination of approximately 3500 acres of forest land in Lake County to determine its suitability as a possible State forest.

1948 registration of timber operators under provisions of the 1945 Forest Practice Act now totals three hundred eighty one with more registrations being received daily.

Continued negotiations were made this month with the Shasta Box Company involving timber land in Trinity County. Appraisals of the land have been made by both the State and the Company but considerable work will be necessary to reconcile results so that negotiations can be conducted on a firm basis.

Planning operations at the State Nursery have been completed on a tentative basis. The proposal is to produce smaller stock of fewer species in large quantities through the use of mechanical equipment. This will permit the distribution of more suitable stock at a much lower price.

Forest Technicians of the Forest Manager's Office inspected forest practices in the three counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego in Administrative District No. 6. It is reported that the compliance with the rules in these counties is generally good.

Work continues this month by Division personnel in the Julian-Cuyamaca Zone of insect infestation in San Diego County. Almost too late for effective accomplishments, the Division of Beaches and Parks has requested the Division of Forestry to undertake bark beetle control work on the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Additional personnel will be employed for this work and the operation will be undertaken in connection with the control job now being handled on the private lands in the adjacent area.

Construction work continued this month with Sid Ormsby lookout, Monterey County and the Basalt lookout, Merced County 95% complete.

The Division, this month, received as a gift from the U.S. Navy, four new navy type lookout towers 30' high. The towers are highly portable and can be easily transported to remote areas. They are valued at $11,000. The Division used nine transports in hauling the 56 separate cases in which the towers were packed for overseas shipment.

More than one million dollars of postwar funds are being scheduled for use during the fiscal year 1949-50. The construction work will include

buildings, roads, telephone lines, bridge reconstruction, and the completion of CYA camps.

Work has been progressing splendidly on the construction of radio repeater vaults. Approximately ten such vaults have been completed. Heavy remodeling and repair work is underway with an item of $130,000 in the 99th Fiscal Year being used for that purpose. Telephone line reconstruction continues in all parts of the State with work in progress in District 1, 3, 4, and 5.

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester

BACK IN THE SADDLE

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one who was so thoughtful and kind during my recent illness. I think my better half did write some of you, but those who have not heard from me, please accept my thanks in this manner. Contrary to first belief, I have no serious defects and should be raring to go in a short time.

I cannot help but throw some stones to some of my best friends in the Division who live in glass houses. Their advice is well taken and all I can say to them is "Practice what you preach". In all seriousness, it does take a serious illness to awaken one to the fact that in fairness to ourselves, our family, and our position we must not abuse ourselves. Contrary to all beliefs, life does not begin at 40.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

BILL SHARP CONVALESCING FOLLOWING HEART ATTACK

State Forest Ranger Bill Sharp is at the present time convalescing in his home. He was released March 1 from the Miners Hospital in Nevada City where he was confined following a heart attack.

All of Bill's many friends through the Division wish him a speedy and full recovery.

Fred M. Dunow, Deputy State Forester

NICK OLLIVIERI, ASSISTANT RANGER SUCCUMBS TO HEART ATTACK

Nick J. Ollivieri, Assistant Ranger in San Benito County suffered a heart attack and died March 1, 1948. Nick started in the Division in May of 1939 as an Assistant Driver and later a Driver in Madera County. He was on military leave from December 8, 1942, to April 8, 1943. On his return he was appointed Assistant Ranger in San Benito County where he was working at the time of his death.

LEE BURCHAM TO TAKE RANGE IMPROVEMENT POSITION

Effective this month Lee Burcham, former Assistant Technician in charge of the Mt. Home State Forest in District IV, will take over the functional responsibility for the Range Improvement program for the Division of Forestry. He

will be working out of the office of Fire Control.

Mr. Burcham majored in Range Improvement at the University of California and had considerable experience prior to the war with the California Forest and Range Experiment Station and the Range Development Service. During the war he was a Captain in the marine Corps and participated in every South Pacific campaign from Guadacanal through to the surrender of Japan.

GOVERNOR DIRECTS POWER CONSERVATION

To Directors of All State Departments:

As you are doubtless aware, a critical power shortage confronts the people of Northern and Central California.

The problems created by the present emergency must be attacked on many fronts. I am advised by the California Public Utilities Commission that it is moving forward with the inauguration of emergency rules and requirements to bring about a power conservation program in the area north of the Tehachapi.

However, any action taken by the Commission to this end can be supplemented if public officials of the State will request that electrical power be curtailed wherever possible in buildings under the jurisdiction of State officials. Such curtailment would encompass the extinguishing of lights from public buildings during the evening hours wherever such action could be taken consistent with the public safety. The critical period of heavy load is from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

City and County officials are requested to publicly urge the citizens of their communities to cooperate in the program developed to save power through careful usage in the home and business establishments by extinguishing all unnecessary lights. . . .

We will be required to conserve both water and electricity during the coming year. This will challenge the best efforts of all who bear a public responsibility as well as every individual citizen. I am confident that by working together in a spirit of cooperation, we will surmount the crisis that now confronts us.

Sincerely,
Earl Warren, Governor

TO ALL DIVISION PERSONNEL

The Director of Natural Resources orders all personnel of his department in Northern and Central California to conform strictly to the Governor's proclamation of February 20, 1948. It is further requested that supervisors of field and headquarters units assume the responsibility of limiting the use of electricity to a necessary minimum by personal inspection and supervision.

C. R. Clar, Chief Deputy

## BOARD OF FORESTRY

The State Board of Forestry met in the Conference Room of the Department of Agriculture, State Building No. 1, Sacramento, on Thursday, February 26 and Friday morning, February 27.

The main topics of discussion on this day and a half portion of the Board meeting were about Mendocino Woodlands, forest nursery problems and plans, current report on the budget, and the 40-hour week developments.

The afternoon meeting of Friday, February 27 was held jointly with the California Fish and Game Commission in the basement board room of the Department of Public Works Building, at 2 P.M. Problems of mutual interest and concern were discussed at this meeting.

The following Board recommendation concerning the deer hunting season was presented to the Fish & Game Commission:

RESOLUTION:

Historically, the month of September has been identified with extensive and costly fire losses. This month is noted for days of high temperature and low humidity. Winds of high velocity are prevalent. After the normal dry season, forests and watershed cover are in the highest inflammable condition.

Recognizing that the month of September combines the worst fire conditions with the conditions of maximum inflammability of forest and watershed cover and further recognizing that the present drought indicates that the year of 1948 will probably result in the year of greatest fire hazard of the present century, the State Board of Forestry urgently requests the State Fish and Game Commission so to set the deer hunting seasons this year that there will be no open season during the month of September.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### DISTRICT II FORESTRY SCHOOL

"Graduates" of the first week of the District II forestry school, held in Burney from February 2 - 6 inclusive, voted the training received as absolutely tops. Four rangers, one associate, and eight assistant rangers received something new and valuable in the field training line when technical instructors from within the District came down-to-earth with facts readily understandable and digestible to the fire-eating group.

The first day Technician Kaufner devoted four hours to a lecture on botany, dendrology, and entomology which opened the eyes of many on the reproductive life of the plant kingdom, and brought forth many questions. Technician Sischo filled out the day with a lecture on forest statistics and forest practices. As may well be imagined, forest practices caused lively discussion because most men present had run into many confusing angles on this through actual contacts with woods operators. Though some were not in agreement with certain interpretations of the forest practice rules, Mr. Sischo very capably directed the situation into

the right channels and gave the trainees slants on the whys and wherefors of such interpretations.

The second day was divided into two lecture sessions, four hours by Engineer Gilman on land survey, surveying instruments, map making and map reading, and four hours by Technician Kaufner and Assistant Rangers Lockhart and Burns on the subjects of timber cruising, air photos, mensuration, and scaling. Actual measurement of a dummy fire was made during Gilman's course and nobody missed the acreage more than 50 percent, which proves we learned something. During the day instructions were given on how to use the scaling stick, Biltmore stick, field compass, abney level, diameter tape, and how to interpret an air photo by use of the stereoscope. Interest was very keen in cruising, mensuration, and scaling for now we fire-eaters were learning something about those fellows we had so often seen running around the woods and over log decks with sticks and tapes. After hearing Lockhart and Burns our respect for this-fellow-with-the-stick raised about one thousand percent because we found out that he determined who made the money - depending, of course, on whether he worked for the lumber company or a gyppo outfit.

On Wednesday, the third day, we took gloriously to the field amidst falling snow flakes and hied ourselves to a patch of Shasta timber east of McArthur. Here we performed a duty for Shasta County (They are short on winter labor, apparently) by treating some 25 insect-infested pines which we identified as largely pinus ponderosa jeffreyi. Average diameter was 12"DBH, and predominant bug was ips with a smattering of dendroctonus brevicomus thrown in. By 1:00 P.M. the snow was four inches deep and we headed back to Burney chaperoned by radiocar guides to the front and rear. A stranger to the snow country was helped out of the ditch on the return trip. Group discussions were held during the remainder of the day.

Thursday saw the big day, for here we actually began to put into practice what had already been learned thru lecture. The morning was devoted to scaling of logs - in seven inches of snow. After lunch three cruising parties consisting of four men each were made up and we went out to allotted areas. Each crew was given 160 acres to cruise on a five percent run. One line was measured on a strip-run and the other by a sample plot run. Approximately every ten chains jobs were traded so that every man had opportunity to retain estimates, use the Biltmore and abney level, plot the course, and operate the compass. Distance measurements were arrived at by pacing, using chains, as the unit. Surprisingly no party missed the closing corner by greater than one chain. At the close of day each party had completed the strip-run and retired to camp.

Friday morning, the last day, each party went out and completed the 160 acre cruise, then returned to camp and, using standard volume tables for the Burney area, computed the volume of timber within each given area. The figures very closely approximated those that the Fruit Growers Supply Company had arrived at in their 20 percent cruise of the area. Scribners' decimal C log rule was used by our crews and the Fruit Growers.

After lunch the gathering bid farewell and headed for home over icy, snow covered highways.

Aside from the serious business several items of interest were noted during the week. Snow seemed to find its way down many necks, and it wasn't falling from the trees, though by Thursday some even accused Neil Edmunds of shaking it out of these too.

We caught a lovely picture of Harry McKeen trying to hold Roy Neil down in the snow while Edmunds piled tons of the stuff on the heads of each. Of course McKeen was handicapped - he was on the bottom. Then there was the time Ed Biggs was called to lunch and opened the door to a beautiful barrage. Later, when we sat down to lunch Ed Biggs was missing. He said he had fallen asleep but there is still some doubt about this.

One night during a little card game at the auto court (we played nice games - nobody lost - much) considerable female squallowing could be heard next door. We passed it off as a party, but later, as we were dispersing for bed, it was noted there were no lights in the cabin from which the noises were emerging and Merrill Swain remarked "Now what kind of a party could they be having in the dark."

Johnny Lockhart was camp boss and a vote of congratulation went to him for a good job. Fred Fisher really put out the food, remarks were all to the good and plenty over those fine pastries and chicken and other tidbits.

Deputy Callaghan came up twice for an overnight stay, and brought Assistant Deputy Petersen on the second trip. Thursday night was taken up with Callaghan and Petersen in a ranger meeting to discuss auto equipment and other administrative matters.

Herb Kaufner was missed after the second day when he became ill and was taken home.

Second week of the school will be held from February 16 to 20 inclusive when the remainder of the administrative officers in District II will get their indoctrination. We believe this training to be a really fine thing for officers working in the timber country, and the men responsible for arranging this session are to be highly congratulated for starting a new trend in C.D.F. training.

Oh yes, slides and movies were shown during two evenings of the week. Paul Sischo had some beautiful stills of various logging operations and forest practice measures as applied to different woods operations in District II. A good movie of sustained yield production processes was shown through the courtesy of Assistant Filippini of North Butte.

W. F. Mann
State Forest Ranger

FORESTRY SCHOOL AT BURNEY

Ranger Bill Mann has written account of the forestry school attended by District II Rangers and Assistants in the first week of February. A second

session was held during the third week of the month and was attended by those Assistant Rangers who were not present in the first class, and in part by representatives of the McCloud River Lumber Company and the Fruit Growers Supply Company.

The second group were fortunate in finding ideal weather conditions, i.e., balmy weather and no snow. Perhaps this accounted for the fact that they disposed of more than twice as many "bug" trees during their course on bark beetle control. However, the prevalent opinion was to the effect that the "Broken down" Rangers had slowed progress in the first class. We really think it was the snow though.

The two classes were organized as a "forestry orientation" course because of the increasing emphasis on forestry as an activity additional to fire control in this district. We believe this is the first attempt of its kind in our organization and hope to see more of the same in the future. Next year we hope to concentrate on a smaller number of subjects in order to develop a practical degree of proficiency on the part of the participants.

It is interesting to note that the Oregon State Forest Service is now conducting a forestry course of 10 weeks duration for a number of its employees, using Oregon State College of Forestry instructors.

John Callaghan
Deputy State Forester

S.A.F. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY VISITS REDDING

On January 30th twenty-five members of the Society of American Foresters, including several District II employees, (Redding Sub-section) met at the Golden Eagle Hotel in Redding to discuss Society affairs with Henry Clepper, Executive Secretary, from Washington, D.C.

In addition to enjoying Mr. Clepper's informal report of S.A.F. activities, the group made plans for a bigger and better Forestry Forum to meet in Redding on April 10. It is hoped to have representatives of some of the lumber companies in the Redding area address the forum on recent developments in the lumber industry in the area.

During the day preceding the meeting, Mr. Clepper visited the District II office and was given a "Cook's tour" of some of the area north of Redding which he had not previously seen.

John Callaghan
Deputy State Forester

NEW SAWMILL AT WHITMORE

Under the direction of Wally Hunt, Forest Project Supervisor, the 10,000 b.f. capacity sawmill recently purchased from War Assets Administration

is being erected at Whitmore, and timber cutting sites are being secured on nearby property. Operation of the mill will provide training to Youth Authority wards in the fields of logging, forestry, milling, planing and grading and will incidentally provide some much needed lumber for our construction program.

John Callaghan
Deputy State Forester

SUSANVILLE RANGER HEADQUARTERS PLANNED

By the time this is in print we hope approval will have been granted by the Public Works Board for the erection of a residence and office on our new Ranger station site just west of Susanville. The present station containing only a warehouse, garage and barracks is too small to accommodate residence and office buildings and is too far from main traveled roads to make a good headquarters site. Present facilities will be retained there however.

For the past three years Ranger Mann, one of the few rangers without a State residence, has been renting inadequate quarters in town for a high rental, meanwhile never ceasing his efforts to have proper State quarters built. Recently he was lucky enough to rent a nice residence at a very nominal figure. Shortly thereafter we received news that the Division was requesting permission to construct the new residence in accordance with our postwar construction plan.

We gold Bill the best way to get his new house was to find adequate rented quarters.

John Callaghan
Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT II HEADQUARTERS PLANNED

Plans are also being formulated for a new District II Headquarters in Redding. An excellent site near the State Ranger station was purchased from the City last year. Present plans call for early construction of an office building, warehouse, and garage.

John Callaghan
Deputy State Forester

"ESPERANZA FIRE CREW STATION HAS "NEW LOOK"

Postwar construction is the main order of business in Calaveras County this winter. Last season's tent camp at Esperanza, 13 miles northeast of San Andreas headquarters, has a "new look" all its own, with two all-metal buildings nearing completion. Within six miles of the Stanislaus National Forest's western boundary, Esperanza station plays an important part in the late summer fire period near the heavy timber area. A new county highway is due to be completed this summer covering 10 of the 13 miles between Esperanza and San Andreas, thus bringing the new station within quicker striking time of the early summer fires in the San Andreas and Valley Springs area.

Other construction is at San Andreas headquarters where a walk-in icebox has been completed and an addition to the barracks is rapidly nearing

completion. Work has also been started on enlarging the headquarters office building, which when completed, will provide four offices and living quarters for the dispatcher.

John W. Jackson has recently held the spotlight on two scores in this county, first for his new son, Tim, and second for his appointment as Assistant Ranger. Jack maintains his youngster is already eating steaks and well along on the road to becoming a full-fledged member of the Division.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

BUGS - WATER TROUBLE TUOLUMNE COUNTY

1. The winter crew of Tuolumne County utilized the last week of January to control a pine bark beetle infestation in the Twain Harte recreational area. In cooperation with the local residents 62 trees, containing 15.3 MFBM, were treated at a total cost of $385. Due to the unseasonal dry conditions some very hot fires were created, one blaze temporarily getting out of control and threatening the cabin of the chairman of the citizens' Insect Control Committee.

2. The drastic decrease in normal rains has caused mid-winter action on the part of Tuolumne County to provide water for the Groveland and Blanchard Fire Stations. Ranger Minners found it necessary to dig the Groveland well an additional 20 feet deeper before sufficient water was obtained. Three men of the winter crew are now engaged in deepening the well at Blanchard. The firefighting prospects for '48 are anything but pleasant!

3. The present high price of electrical appliances has forced some one to pilfer the four-burner cook stove from Rushing Mt. Lookout in Tuolumne County. The case will be studied by District III Investigator Raleigh Taylor just as soon as he has recovered from a bad case of mumps, which, incidentally, he blames on Earl Barron.

Ed Minners
State Forest Ranger

RAFFERTY IN PHILLIPINE SOCIAL WHIRL

Mr. Rafferty, Investigator for District IV, is now in Cebu City, Phillipine Islands, where he is busily engaged taking care of his father's estate which was partially destroyed by the war. In letters received he states he has set up an office and has a steno so we may receive some news releases from him soon. He is attending many social functions along with his business (no change here), and states they are far more formal than ours and very pretentious. Said he attended one in a private home where there were 200 guests, 2 bars, 2 dance floors - all buffet style in the dining room and porch, with at least 25 servants attending your every need.

Lucille Wood
Forest Fire Dispatcher

IT MIGHT HAPPEN TO ANYONE

1. Parlimentary procedure outlines certain standard procedure in conducting meetings; and District IV, naturally among the most progressive of Districts, is not one to overlook invoking high standards - well this could continue ad infinitum and possibly distract from our superior reporting so to adhere strictly to factural reporting, it seems District IV followed the prescribed doctrine in conducting meetings and the presiding officer duly appointed a Sergeant of Arms during the recent Training School, and to be sure it was a good appointment as it was as much man as probably could be appointed at once, in the person of "Mac" McCarthy.

2. The following incident will bear out the writer's contention that the appointment was judicious. It seems the District being so unusually expansive, reaching to almost the extreme ends of the State, to such places as District VI, (the preceeding phrase not meant to be facetious) it would naturally be difficult to know all personnel. Consequently, one whom Mac thought to be one of our personnel, was permitted entry during the last day's examination - - Maybe the party got by the door before Mac could overtake him, or maybe Mac was too diligently engrossed in studying the exam., though it seems more likely Mac may have thought this man from another district. Anyhow this Mr. "A" got up to the front row and was given a Question Sheet by Technician Faas - Jerry, you know, is District IV's "Sparks" and likes to start the fireworks - so probably this is why Jerry handed this gentleman the exam. paper. But Jerry, alas, was disappointed as nothing exciting ensued. The gentleman was near sighted and, fortunately, didn't decipher the stuff on the paper (and that wasn't because George wrote it), but because the poor old fellow was older than a lot of our rangers, and couldn't see very well.

3. Needless to say, Mac found out it was the Townsend Meeting he was looking for and helped the old gent on his way in a most courteous manner. Nice going, Mac!

Signed - "Noname"
my incognito-John

DISTRICT IV TRAINING SCHOOL

1. District IV held the first part of their annual Training School in Fresno, February 18, 19, and 20. The attendance at this conference was a revelation of the progress the Division is making. There were some one hundred men attending. A Field Training session will be held just prior to the advent of fire season.

2. Deputy Forester Metcalf presided with Chief Fire Control Officer, Winters standing by and summing up a few of the weighty discussions. The meetings were held as a "Committee of the whole" except after the daily quiz period when two or three individuals were "in the hole", especially Don Knowlton and George Phibbs, who framed the examinations. The questions were contributed by everyone, though an assessment of a fine on the second day was levied because there were no contributions after the first session. However, this collection went to a good cause--to the Fresno County Cooks who did the fine job of providing board for those who stayed at the Fresno County Headquarters.

3. The following were some of the subjects discussed:

a. The fourty (40) hour week was outlined by Mr. Winters: a review of CDF Rules and Regulations by Deputy Metcalf; Emergency Vehicle Operation by Officer Babel; Accident Claims by Mr. Reinhardt of Firemans Indemnity; and in addition to Mr. Evans of the Fire Marshal's office, Mr. Maddux of the Fresno Fire Department, and Bob Weekly of the International News giving the group a talk on subjects in their respective fields, there were activity reports by the various rangers and mebers of the staff, followed by group discussion.

4. Some outstanding facts brought out at the conference were:

a. It seemed but about twenty percent of our Field staff have availed themselves of the opportunity to study CDF Rules and Regulations in the Black Book.

b. In the field of First Aid, it seems a new treatment is advocated for the treatment of burns. For minor burns which are not dirty, vaseline should be applied, after which they should be firmly bandaged. On more severe burns a moist bandage should be applied as a first aid measure.

c. The Deputy Fire Marshal informed the group that a letter through the proper channels would provide for any needed inspection by an officer in his department of a place of public assemblage.

5. It is to be regretted that time did not permit a greater participation through discussion, however, no doubt many questions were settled in the outside discussion groups which naturally occur at a meeting of this sort.

6. It is to be desired that these meetings provoke constructive discussion and it is hoped that the correct solutions will be sought and found.

W. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

CONSERVATION WEEK PROGRAM

District IV is contributing its bit to Conservation Week and is really trying to get the general public more fire conscious, especially in view of a very hazardous fire season ahead of us.

To date our activities include four radio broadcasts, plus several radio plugs transcribed and then transmitted over the air between programs, several programs before school students, and programs before local clubs.

We are also cooperating, through the local chapter of the California Conservation Council, with the U.S. Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, National Park Service and the local schools in broadcasting three radio programs. If we have a serious fire situation this summer, at least it won't be because we did not extend our efforts toward preventing it during Conservation Week.

Donald E. Knowlton
Associate Ranger

CAR PROBLEM SOLVED BY RANGER BENGARD

During the month of October, 1947, Ranger A. Roy Bengard purchased a ticket from the Hollister Grange to help their building bund. This being one of the many tickets purchased by a Ranger during the year for good causes, nothing more was thought of it until the night of February 14, 1948, when, at 12 midnight, the phone in Bengard's residence brought him out of a sound sleep. The operator asked Bengard if he would accept a collect call from Hollister; this call being from his sister-in-law, he accepted and was then informed that there was a 1947 Plymouth Special Deluxe Sedan waiting for him in Hollister. Needless to say, there was little sleeping done in the Bengard home for the rest of the night. Bright and early the next morning, the Bengard's were seen speeding out of Fresno for Hollister.

Bengard was asked what his formula was for getting a new car. It is just purchase a one dollar ticket on all car tickets that may come your way and then think nothing more about it until the phone rings.

FRESNO COUNTY TRUCK DRIVER GETS MARRIED IN RENO

David C. Saether, stole a march on everyone by slipping away early one morning for Reno and getting married. The bride is the former Janice Gaither of Fresno. They are making their home in Fresno.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI NEWS

On February 12, 1948, Mrs. Eugene H. Bertsch, wife of Assistant Deputy Bertsch of the Headquarters Office had a luncheon for all the gals of the headquarters office staff, also present were Mrs. James K. Mace, and Mrs. Jack D. Burke. The luncheon was enjoyed by all and it is no small wonder that Gene Bertsch possesses the fear of the middle-age bulge, -- his wife is an awfully good cook.

From some of the following reports received from the field, it would appear that many a little fish will wish it had never swam over the dam:

ORANGE COUNTY

Southern California has experienced one of the longest dry periods since the 1890's. In Orange County from December 1 to February 1 we had about 3½" of rain, most of which fell during the first week in December with no percipitation whatsoever until the first week in February. From July 1, 1947, to February 7, 1948, we only have a total of 4.47 inches of rain, which is only about 1/3 of the normal rainfall for this area. This lack of rainfall, together with dry winds, extended our fire season making it necessary to rehire some of our truck drivers and firefighters and they, with our other forces, have been busy fighting fires in the middle of winter. Orange County has experienced one of the coldest winters for several years, with considerable damage from frost to the

orange crops. So, all in all, with all the problems presented by the extended fire season, minor construction maintenance projects, statistical reports and forms, and at the same time trying to keep caught up on vacations, all hands have been exceedingly busy.

Foreman Wayne King and Mrs. King of Orange Headquarters station welcomed their first child, a baby daughter, on January 12. All Forestry employees in Orange County congratulate Wayne and Mrs. King. We also wish to congratulate Bob Keepers, who is now stationed in San Diego County, on his promotion to Foreman, also we all wish him success and happiness on his recent marriage while in Orange County. Assistant Ranger Neil Parker of San Juan Capistrano Station took a vacation trip to Florida and has been telling fish stories ever since about his good luck with rod and reel; however, he has been confessing that there is nothing like being back at work with the Forestry in Sunny Southern California. Other employees enjoying vacations are: Assistant Rangers Allan Portigal, Glen Diamond, and Frank Weatherford. Foremen Wayne King, Elmer Oliverson, Louis Baldwin, and Karl Jaeger. Truck Drivers William Alderson, Claude Lewellen, Fred Schubert, Bill Pangle, and Andrew Gengler.

While Assistant Ranger Neil Parker had to go to Florida to be able to tell some big fishing stories, we note that some of the other boys who took their vacations had some tall tales to tell of fishing, duck hunting, sight seeing and other sport events and we even understand a member of the office force took a trip into the snow in recent days.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Under the direction of Radio Technician Harvey Gillette communications tests were conducted during 1947 using a portable 50 watt transmitter, the purpose of which was to establish a better location for the main transmission tower. A spot on Little Mountain, which is also occupied by a State Lookout, was decided upon and construction work began about the middle of January, 1948, by State Forestry personnel from various stations throughout San Bernardino County. The tower is approximately 135 ft. structural steel type and was obtained through war surplus. On the tower are three sets of warning lights for aircraft protection, installed so that one pair may burn out but the other will continue to function. The tower, together with changes being made in the communications facilities at headquarters, will greatly improve communications with State and County fire control units throughout San Bernardino County.

Ushered in by a 250 acres brush fire which started on 24 December, 1947, near Cable Canyon, San Bernardino County, was to experience nearly six weeks of extreme high fire hazard weather conditions. During most of this period humidity readings ranged well below 20%; with winds from mild to hurricane force. Ranger "Butch" Skinner's office, through cooperation of the radio stations and newspapers, was able to keep a constant flow of fire prevention information going out to the public during this period of high fire hazard at this unseasonal time of the year.

This activity was no doubt of immeasurable benefit in keeping down disastrous watershed fires.

The Fish and Game Commission in San Bernardino County has issued a warning to all fish inhabiting said County, neighboring counties and Mexico, also part of Arizona, to be on the lookout for one Division of Forestry employee weighing approximately 185, red hair, hazel eyes, generally wearing "pink" and gray sport shirt. This man is generally noted to be very murderous in respect to fish's lives. And now that he has acquired a 16 foot Kelson Craft is doubly dangerous, for he has scarcely got the bottom of this aforementioned boat wet, yet has already planned numerous trips for the sole purpose of catching fish. He has been known to go under the name of Butch Skinner, State Forest Ranger, San Bernardino County.

Charles U. Ulrey, Assistant Ranger

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

As this is the first News Letter item for 1948 from Riverside County, it is perhaps appropriate to introduce readers to our winter resorts. Yes, we are speaking of the desert area with its dates, citrus crops and mid-winter sunshine. Fire protection in this area has become an ever increasing problem, as the population has doubled and redoubled in recent years. The protection problem in this desert area is a diversified, threefold program of structural, commercial trucking interests and the agricultural crops of the Coachella Valley. In the past year four stations have been established and are being maintained in the desert. Two of the stations, Catherdral City and Desert Hot Springs, have been erected by the communities; the third, at Indio, which is still in process of completion, was constructed by the personnel of this Division. The fourth station is maintained at Blythe in cooperation with the City Fire Department there.

Our communications in the desert outposts have been improved considerably with the addition of a new radio transmitter at Indio. This has facilitated communications between these desert stations and Perris Headquarters. With the latest additions, all of the equipment now operating on the desert is four-wheel drive and has a capacity of 500 to 800 gallons of water. However, even the fast expansion, as noted above, will not long meet the protection needs of this rapidly growing area.

If and when the readers of the News Letter are in the Palm Springs - Coachella Valley area, we cordially invite one and all to visit our sun drenched stations.

See your next News Letter for word about the Riverside County Fair and Date Festival.

Deane L. Bennett, Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County Division of Forestry Employees enjoyed a dinner-dance get-together January 28 in La Mesa. An excellent dinner was served and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Most of the guests were wives of the employees and Ranger Miller thought they should get to know each other. From District Headquarters came Deputy State Forester and Mrs. Mace, and Assistant Deputy State Forester and Mrs. Bertsch. Everyone expressed their belief that the party was the "best ever" held by the Division and all are agreed that such an affair should be held at least once a year.

The present epidemic attack of Pine Bark Bettles in the Julian-Cuyamaca Area started in 1945. Sporadic interest was aroused and several meetings held, but it was not until the winter of 1947-48 that it was possible to start actual control work. Paul Keen from the Forest Insect Laboratory surveyed the area during the summer and found one of the worst Ips Ingraver beetle outbreaks ever seen in a limited area sweeping through the Coulter Pine stands in the Kentwood summer home area. After determining the extent of the infestation, Mr. Keen drew up a work plan for the area and the preliminary plans were drawn up to start work on December 16, upon completion of fire season. The State Board of Forestry then established a Zone of Insect Infestation in the Julian-Cuyamaca Area comprising 16,000 acres.

Through the efforts of the Julian Chamber of Commerce, the Soil Conservation Service, and Assistant Ranger Floyd Lewis interest was aroused in the control of the insect attack to the tune of $5,000 pledge from the residents of the area for eradication work. These funds are being matched by an equal amount by the State of California, giving us a $10,000 budget for the winter's work. As this area includes several tracts of summer home sites, work was then started to obtain the agreements with more than 1,500 property owners in the Zone of Investation, by both personal contact and mail. Long hours were spent in the tax assessor's and tax collector's offices to determine the true ownership of the properties involved as much of the land is in absentee ownership.

Initial training on the project consisting of spotting methods and species identification started November 23 with Paul Keen as the instructor. Those taking part in the training were Ranger E. S. Miller, Associate L. R. Chatten, Assistants Floyd Lewis, John Hastings, M. O. Schori, W. G. Francis, E. R. Cook, and Foreman R. E. Green. All of the above are from San Diego County. Assistants Ulry and Dean of San Bernardino and Neil Rice, Assistant Engineer from Riverside Office came down to take some training also.

During this period, Neil Rice, Assistant Engineer, who is in charge of the project for the Riverside Office was busy gathering together chain saws, axes, files and the other materials necessary to carry on the project.

Floyd E. Lewis, veteran Assistant Ranger at Julian was designated as the man in charge in the field with the assistance of Assistant Rangers Mike Schori and John Hastings. Forest Firetruck Drivers C. McGregor, J. Porter, D. Kirkman, and D. Matthews were assigned to work full time with the project for its duration.

On December 16 with the assistance of George Struble of the Forest Insect Laboratory work was officially begun on the project. The initial eradication starting in the heaviest hit summer home site area, Whispering Pines. Work has been carried on in this area up to February 1.

After initial inexperience and sore muscles were overcome, the project began to get well under way. Using chain saws and HD-7, operated by John Tomko, greatly expedited the work and made up for the lack of a larger crew of men. The treating work was greatly hampered by one of the driest years in California's history, making it impossible to burn the piled slash and trees. The bugs are, "according to the book", supposed to overwinter in the trees and slash during the cold winter months, thus making eradication possible, but such has not been in the case in this balmy winter of 70 and 80 degree days. Numerous cases have occurred of fresh "fades" showing up after eradication work has supposedly been completed in the area.

Not only was the weather a factor to reckon with, but the numerous homes, power lines, and telephone lines made felling a great number of the trees a hazardous job. However, the use of the tractor and the acquisition of a Dodge Power Wagon with a winch enabled us to complete the area without any damage. It has also been necessary to prevent damage to the fine stands of manzanita and other brush on these summer home sites as some of the land owners prize them very highly. This makes snaking out the logs and finding a place to burn them rather difficult at times.

Finally, in the latter part of January, light rains enabled the accumulated piles of slash to be burned with the assistance of the Mt. Woodson Forestry Camp. In the final analysis of the 100 acre tract of over 300 lots some 700 trees and poles had been felled and treated by burning. During the course of the project work a continuous training program is being carried on with the foremen of the County working on the project for two week periods to enable them to lead treating crews in Pine Beetle eradication at future dates.

Up to this date we have been fortunate in having no serious accidents occur, but the heavy Coulter pine cone has proved a hazard as is evidenced by the five holes put in the head of Foreman R. E. Green by a falling cone penetrating through a stiff brim Stetson.

That's all for now--more news from the bugs next month.

L. R. Chatten, Associate Ranger

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS SET NEW HIGH

Net receipts from the operation of the 153 national forests for the six-months period from July 1 to December 31, 1947, totaled $11,223,308, the Forest Service has reported. These receipts exceeded those for the corresponding period in 1946 by $2,917,893 and were the largest ever earned by the national forests in any six-month period.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

## WATTS' 1947 ANNUAL REPORT STRESSES WATERSHED CARE

Nation-wide cooperation and support for a program to increase and where necessary intensify good forest and range management on the country's highland watersheds was urged by Lyle F. Watts, chief of the U.S. Forest Service, in his annual report for 1947.

Watts said that the kind and degree of protection and care given these watersheds have far-reaching influences on the nation's stream flow and water resources. The lands to which he referred generally are forest and wild areas at higher elevations and the source of all our major rivers.

"We are paying a huge price every year—in heavy flood losses, erratic stream behavior, reduced water quality, sedimentation, and in many other ways—for our failure to give enough care to the highlands that water our valleys," wrote the chief forester.

Regarding the millions of acres of timbered watershed in private ownership, the chief forester said that, in the light of the national water situation, timber management and cutting practices that maintain a continuous growth of trees and keep soil in place must be applied on these lands, as on all timber lands. To that end, the report calls again for public controls to bar destructive timber cutting; more technical and cooperative aids to encourage wider adoption of good timber management practice by private owners; and intensified control work against forest fires and destructive forest insects and disease. Also called for, to improve watershed conditions and restore wasted lands to productivity, were "stepped up" tree planting for depleted forest and increased reseeding programs for depleted range lands.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

## PAPER COMPANY USES HELICOPTER FOR SEEDING

On December 28 something of a "first" was set in western forestry. A Bell helicopter that day took up two loads of forest tree seed to be distributed over a 1,000-acre area of the Crown Zellerbach Corporation's Columbia tree farm in northwest Oregon. A third trip the following day completed the job of dispersing about 100 million seeds over the area. Later the "egg-beater" was also used similarly on 1640 acres of three other Crown Zellerbach tree farms. It all worked like a charm. Distribution was excellent, as attested by check-count cloths placed at various spots. Rodent control advice was provided by an expert from the U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

WEYERHAEUSER DEVELOPS NEW PRESSURE LOG BARKER

A new method of barking logs has been developed by the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and is now in use in the Weyerhaeuser plywood plant at Longview, Washington. The new equipment removes bark by compression and shearing action. It gives a clean separation which leaves the log free from bark, without cutting into the outer sapwood.

One man operates the Weyerhaeuser machine from a carriage which moves the bark removing compression head across the log, which turns in a lathe. Controls mounted upon the carriage guide a rotating wheel which compresses and shears off the bark. An air cylinder and piston furnish the power for the compression head, which automatically follows the log's contours.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

OLZENDAM PREDICTS GREAT FORESTRY PROGRESS

Roderic Olzendam, west coast industrial relations counselor, who was among those who initiated the tree farm movement in 1941, engaged in a bit of prophecy before the 26th annual meeting of the Washington State Forestry Conference, held in Seattle on December 5. Said Olzendam:

"Within the next 10 years, every forested state will have an active Keep Green program. Tree Farm acreage will not be 15 million, as now, but around 30 million, maybe more. Most of the forest operators in the business will place forestry and forest management as No. 1 on their list of things to do. Many state school systems will have forestry in their curricula. National timber growth will be definitely on the credit side. It's almost there now. How will these things be accomplished? Keep steadily on the road we are on. Keep the eye on the ball, and don't be distracted too much by the fights and flurries that are bound to occur!"

Forestry Digest
February 1948

DOUGLAS FIR SETS PRODUCTION RECORD IN 1947

Oregon and Washinton's Douglas fir industry broke peace-time lumber production records for eighteen years in 1947 with a cut from 1775 sawmills of 7.694 billion board feet, according to Harris E. Smith, secretary of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association.

"This increased lumber production, highest since 1929, has resulted in the greatest home-building year since 1925," Smith reported. "There were 830,000 homes started in 1947, and that means framing lumber was on the ground for every one of these new homes."

Forestry Digest - February 1948

## RECORD PRODUCTION FOR PAPER INDUSTRY IN 1947

Production of all types of paper and paperboard in the United States in 1947 closely approached the 21 million tons estimated a few months ago, thereby breaking all previous records by a substantial margin, the Department of Commerce has reported. In fact, 1947 output was about 9 per cent greater than that of 1946; 20 per cent greater than that of 1945; and 55 per cent greater than that of 1939.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

## MAINE COOPERATIVE TO SALVAGE BURNED TIMBER

The Western Maine Timber Salvage Corporation, a non-profit cooperative set up by lumber manufacturers, standing timber owners and other lumber industry interests operating in nineteen townships in southwestern Maine, will insure speedy and equitable salvaging of all merchantable timber left in the wake of the disastrous forest fires.

Raymond E. Rendall, Maine Forest Commissioner, placed the burned area at approximately 250,000 acres, with damage estimated at more than $30,000,000. On approximately 233,000 acres, there remains from 100,000,000 to 150,000,000 board feet of merchantable timber, according to Rendall.

The new salvage organization reported that it will commission logging contractors to quickly remove as many logs as possible in the area and store surpluses in adjacent lakes and ponds. Resale to lumber producers, will be on a non-profit basis at a price slightly above old OPA ceilings.

To provide an unassailable estimate of how much merchantable timber remains in the damaged area, Governor Horace A. Hildreth of Maine has requested the United States Forest Service to undertake a comprehensive survey. The government agency is now engaged in this task, utilizing aerial photographs supplemented by a ground check made by a large crew.

Forestry Digest
February 1948

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7, No. 3 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor Mar., 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

## NELSON REVIEWS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

March rainfall was most welcome by agriculture, industry, and governmental agencies and has alleviated to a great extent the hazardous preseason fire risks that prevailed during the first two and one-half months of 1948. Rainfall has continued during the first few days of April making it unnecessary for the Division of Forestry to activate its fire crews and lookouts until the normal opening date of April 15 in Southern California and May 1 in Northern California.

These activation dates will prevail unless extended strong north winds and high temperatures are experienced during April.

What had looked like one of the most severe droughts in history has most decidedly improved with the beneficial rainfall that has blessed California's desiccated lands for the past thirty days. The Division continues, however, to fashion its prefire season activities around fire prevention with a great deal of effort being devoted to fire prevention education and the reduction of physical field hazards. District wide training courses were held this month in all districts with emphasis being placed on fire prevention, fire control, training, supervision, forest management, and range improvement.

The Division this month developed, in cooperation with the State Department of Employment and the State Personnel Board, tentative plans for a recruiting service that will be of tremendous benefit to the Division in not only filling but maintaining fire crews during the entire length of the fire season. It is hoped that the three agencies working together can procure the desired types of individuals as well as keep the fire suppression crews filled to capacity.

Under State contract, the Yankee Body Works of Los Angeles has completed this month the pilot model for the 400-gallon fire suppression tank truck, 25 of which should be delivered and in operation by this Division by the middle of June. The built-up work for the tank trucks will be done prior to that date, but the finished job will be held up because of our inability to obtain pumps.

Bids are now being submitted for the built-up work on 61 fire suppression crew trucks. The bids will be received and opened about the 20th of April.

Rather than the normal oral test for the positions of forest fire truck driver and equipment operator, the Division this month has worked out with the Personnel Board a practical field test that should materially help in eliminating manpower that can successfully pass written examinations but which have little practical experience in the actual operation of mechanized equipment.

A contract was awarded this month to the Philco Corporation for 82 FM radio mobile sets. Bids will soon be open on 34 FM land stations. The Motorola Corporation is now in the process of modifying 54 FM mobile sets to the new frequency channels, and it is anticipated that 34 additional mobile sets will be modified by the Link Radio Corporation. Modification work on these 88 FM mobile sets should be completed in May and the sets in operation by the middle of June. Augmented by the 82 new mobile sets and the 34 land stations, all of which should be in operation by July 30, the Division should have much improved radio communications by August 1.

The Division of Forestry budget approved by the Legislature contains the following major reductions:

1. A cut of $61,715 in the support item which eliminated 12 additional pickups and 6 fire trucks from the budget, in addition to an item of $3,500 for State and County fairs.

2. The allotment to the United States Forest Service for reimbursement for protection of State and private lands inside regional forest boundaries was cut $108,345.

3. $500,000 for the purchase of State forests was deleted from the budget.

The Forest Management section this month continued with the consultation program with District Field Personnel on the application of Forest Practice Rules.

Administrative District 2 and 5 were covered with the exception of San Mateo County. The bark beetle control project in the Julian-Cuyamaca Zone of Infestation continued in good shape. It is expected that by the end of the current control season in the latter part of April, the insect control work will be complete in the Cuyamaca State Park and in approximately one-half of the infested area on private lands in the vicinity of the town of Julian.

An agreement was reached this month with the State Lands Commission under which it is hoped that a program of exchange of State lands for U.S. Forest lands will be worked out permitting the enlargement of present State Forests. Negotiations continued this month for the acquisition of the Calso Tract on Boggs Mountain, Lake County, as a State Forest.

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETS IN RIVERSIDE

The April meeting of the State Board of Forestry was held in the Mission Inn in Riverside on the 8th of the month. State Forester, Nelson, reviewed briefly for the fiscal year 1948-49 and gave a brief resume of the 5-day week plan. The major part of the morning's discussion involved the rural protection problems pertinent to Southern California counties and involved participation by representatives of Boards of Supervisors of San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, and San Diego Counties. A

concrete proposal for rural fire protection intensification was discussed by Barney Paul of the Los Angeles County's Foresters and Fire Warden Office. Later in the afternoon the Board considered a recommended fire prevention policy and adopted the policy after minor revisions were made. A report on the insect control project in San Diego County was given by Deputy State Forester Mace who also discussed insect eradication work in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The Board previewed the new cooperative fire prevention campaign film "Then it Happened" and was advised that a number of copies of this excellent film would be purchased by the Division for use throughout the State. The next meeting of the Board was set for June 14 and 15 to be held at the Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County.

FIRE PREVENTION FILM "THEN IT HAPPENED" RECEIVED BY DIVISION

A new 16 mm color sound picture produced as a part of the cooperative forest fire prevention campaign by the U.S. Forest Service has been received this month. The film is a superlative production fifteen minutes in length and tells of the carelessness responsible for the Maine forest fire disaster during the Fall of 1947. In the opinion of all who have previewed this film it is the best production of many years, will have a decided effect in initiating public awareness of fire risk potentialities in California this year. The Division intends to purchase at least six copies of the film making one copy available for each administrative district.

CORRECTION IN THE JANUARY "NEWS LETTERS"

The following corrections should be made in the January "News Letter". On page 5 - It takes seven (7) pounds of redwood cones to yield one pound of seed. "News Letter" reads two (2) pounds of cones to one pound of seed. On page 4 The scientific name for coast redwood is Sequoia sempervirens, not sempervirious.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT I HOLDS CONFERENCE WEEK

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester, opened a week long session of conference and discussion by Rangers, Assistant Rangers, and staff of District I at Mendocino Woodlands, March 15th to 20th.

The State Forester's address highlighted the theme of the conference by emphasizing that the job of the Division of Forestry is conservation - in the sense of wise use - of California's land for five natural resources: water, timber, grazing, recreation, and wildlife.

Nelson stressed each Division employee should perform his individual job effectively toward this end by attaining and exercising ability and skill gained through knowledge plus experience.

Fire prevention is one of the important means through which the Division must fulfill its function.

District I Deputy F. H. Raymond coordinated the presentation of material by staff members on such subjects as Fire Prevention Administration, Forestry, Finance, Equipment maintenance, and Training to show how individual functions can be

definitely directed toward the aim of the Division of Forestry.

This relationship of the individual to the job of the Division was brought out through group discussions led by the staff members from the particular field under consideration.

Viewpoints on mutual problems were exchanged, common definitions painfully given birth, and questions of debatable nature pinned down to an acceptable base for consideration. All hands not only acquired useful information, but saw the other side of each other's fences, and were enabled to better orient their particular functions in the overall picture.

Kelly McGuire, Logging Superintendent of Caspar Lumber Company provided interesting background by giving a history of logging in the Redwood Region.

Everyone enjoyed an excellent talk by W. K. ("Bill") Smith, Training Officer for the State Personnel Board.

Mr. J. M. Lanning from the Fire Weather Service, U.S. Weather Bureau, made a valuable contribution by showing how the Fire Weather Service can aid in fire control and prevention through availability of a mobile weather unit and short term forecasting service on request.

Among the guests "Escaping" from the Sacramento office for a day or so, was Chief Deputy State Forester C. R. Clar, L. T. Burcham also spent several days at the session enabling District I personnel to get better acquainted with him.

Everyone agreed the greatest service of the session was the fine pre-conditioning for fire season gained from smoky fire places in the cabins in which personnel slept, and in the mess and recreation halls where discussions were held. Conditioning was made more effective by the careful planning of Deputy Raymond. Detailed arrangements had been made for a heavy "Humboldt Fog" which gave a choice of avoiding the smoke and getting soaked, or staying inside to become conditioned. After a day or two, some rebellious genius discovered screens in the flues were plugged with soot, and removing the screens would cause some fire places to draw well!!

"Buck" Erickson, Napa County Ranger, wore a Kelly green tie to breakfast on St. Patrick's Day. Later in the day the tie turned up missing. A number of innocent (?) persons were accused of theft and threatened with investigation proceedings. Perhaps it was just coincidence that everyone in camp except Buck wore a bit of Kelly green cloth on his lapel that evening!

Credit for a comfortable and smooth running camp goes to Foreman Archie Gordon of Mendocino County, who acted as Camp Boss, and his Assistant, Harry Thomas, District Headquarters. These two men saw to it that conference members had full Coleman lanterns, soap, hot water, and all the multiplicity of detail that keeps a camp from going haywire.

High spirits and congeniality prevailed throughout the training session with the cooks, "Dan" Dannmeyer of Sonoma County, Curtis "Smitty" Smith of Napa County, and "Ben" Reynard from Humboldt providing good food and effectively supervising the kitchen police duty of dignified Rangers and Assistants.

Plenty of fire wood for cabins and assembly buildings was provided beforehand by the Fire Control Group of Mendocino County.

All personnel attending the conference gave a vote of thanks to Deputy Raymond and his staff for making possible this opportunity to thrash out problems, exchange ideas, and for the broadened conceptions of individual jobs. All agreed that the Mendocino Woodlands was an ideal place to have such a session, and expressed hopes that a similar conference could be held next year.

Mendocino Woodlands is a group recreational area, about nine miles from Mendocino City, included within the new Jackson State Forest, (Caspar Tract). The Woodlands was formerly administered by the U.S. Park Service, and is being transferred to the State of California on a quit claim deed from the Department of Interior. Within the area are three large camps with a number of cabins, a large mess hall at each camp, and shower facilities.

R. M. Maclean
Assistant Technician

STAND IMPROVEMENT PLOT ESTABLISHED IN BUTTE COUNTY

There has been established, two miles southwest of Stirling City, in the North Butte Unit, a stand improvement demonstration plot. The plot is about seven acres in size, located on the county road close to a favorite camping and picnicking spot of out of district and valley residents.

The project is of a cooperative nature in that the land is owned by the Diamond Match Company and that their forestry staff, under the direction of Lloyd Wambold, Forester, Herb Kaufner, Farm Forester for District II and the Division of Forestry personnel of the North Butte Unit are working together to record the silvicultural data which will be made available as the project progresses. The actual work on the plot will be undertaken by yearlong and seasonal fire control employees of the Division employed in the North Butte Unit and will be fitted into the training and general fitness program of the unit.

The Chico State College has been invited to use the area for a study plot in their botany, entomology and forestry classes. It is planned to give the College natural science department a duplicate set of records as obtained from the plot. The feeling is general here that this project will do much in maintaining a high interest by owners of small parcels of timberland and probably encourage continuing management.

Harry McKeen
Associate Ranger

RESCUE WORK IN BUTTE COUNTY

During the week March 22 to 27th, snow fell in quantities along the crests of the Northern Sierras in the North Butte Unit. By Friday all roads over the 3,000 foot level were blocked with heavy drifts. This resulted in two incidents which again shows that Forest Protection Agencies are always looked to in time of emergency.

A troop of Boy Scouts from San Francisco were snowbound at Camp Lassen near Butte Meadows. Anxious parents and Scout Leaders and happy youths awaited cargo carrying aircraft and road ploughs. When the road ploughs failed to get through the USFS dispatched a 'weasel' into the marooned Scouts to ferry them out.

The other incident resulted in a rescue team saving the life of a bed-ridden, exposure weakened miner on Inskip Creek north of Stirling City. Word was brought out of the area by another miner skiing to a point of communication. The Stirling City Forestry office notified the Sheriff's office and plans were formulated. Early the next morning Forestry employees on the North Butte and volunteers from the Diamond Match Company snowshoed in four miles down through steep rough terrain by a known short cut to reach the victim's cabin. First Aid, which required dressing a seriously infected arm and then making the miner comforable, bound in blankets and a tarp and lashed on a 6 foot toboggan completed arrangements for the trip out. One man breaking trail, three men pulling on a tow line and one man guiding the sled is the way that Jim Koons, the 57 year old miner was transported the nine miles out to a waiting Forestry power-wagon which carried him out through otherwise impassable mud and snow barriers to medical care in an Oroville hospital. Melting snow conditions made it a trying ordeal for the team on webs and the steeper hills were made in spurts of 50 or 60 yards and then a rest to gasp and rest the straining muscles. Upon topping a rise after five miles of such going the sharp exhaust of the R4 Forestry bulldozer was heard in the distance. Knowing that the other half of the rescue team had opened the road that far put new life into the tired men pulling the toboggan. The forestry party and volunteers from North Butte rescue team met the Butte County Forestry rescue unit and deputy sheriff and wearily transferred their passenger to a fresh group. Inadvertently the dozer was mired down so the remaining miles were covered afoot, but much easier as the webs could be discarded because of the opened road and more willing hands to share the burden. All who participated, although exhausted felt satisfied because of a job well done and know that because of their efforts a life was saved.

H. G. McKeen
Associate Ranger

DISTRICT III HOLDS TRAINING SCHOOL

A training school for present employees currently employed within District III, with the exception of cooks and stenographers, has been underway at the Division's station at Mt. Danaher in ElDorado County.

The subjects for instruction were developed at a District Ranger's Meeting held earlier in the year. A three-man committee, headed by Investigator Raleigh Taylor, was appointed by Deputy Dunow to formulate plans for the school and to select instructors in the various subjects.

It was the consensus of the rangers that because of the number of personnel involved the school would be divided into three schools with the class rotating each week. In this manner the standby protection could still be maintained in the counties and the classes would be held to a small enough group that greater benefits would evolve.

It was also decided that each school would be of five days duration with the first three days being basic training and the final two days being advanced training. The fire crew group would attend only the basic training. Administrative personnel would attend the basic and also the two days of advanced training.

From the list of subjects suggested at the Ranger's Meeting the committee chose those which were most pertinent to the job and selected instructors for the presentation of the subjects. In practically all cases the instructors were chosen from personnel of the district but some specialized training was received from outside instructors.

Mr. John Lanning of the U.S. Weather Bureau presented a very interesting account of the operations of his organization in weather forecasting and explained the benefits that can be derived by the Division from specialized service such as spot forecasts in the case of campaign fires as well as the regular daily fire weather forecast which we receive during the summer months.

We were fortunate also in having Mr. Thomas S. Ward of the State Department of Education for a four hour training period on the mechanics of job training as it applies to our work. One of the objectives of the school was to "train the trainers", and Mr. Ward's presentation of the basic principles of job training was of great value.

Chief Deputy State Forester Clar, together with Miss Dorothy Lewis of his staff and Mrs. Houston Thomas of the Personnel Board, attended one afternoon of the first week of the school and discussed the most timely subjects of the 40-hour week and the new performance report. A discussion followed their presentation of these subjects at which time they answered questions concerning the mechanics of the operation of the 40-hour week and the new Report of Performance.

At one evening meeting Bill Fairbank of the State Forester's staff brought us up to date on the State fire prevention effort and gave a resume of what is being done toward the procurement of prevention materials for our use, such as posters, films, and so forth.

Bob Orr of the Western Fire Equipment Company demonstrated their latest flame throwing equipment and the newly improved backfiring torch. "Nip" Dallas, of Mr. Van Pelt's Fire Equipment organization, appeared and spoke briefly on the functions of his organization in the building up of the new trucks. Other guests who were in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Lee Burcham and Lewis Moran of the State Forester's staff. Inasmuch as this is being written prior to the completion of the school in order to meet the deadline for the next issue of the News Letter, we possibly will leave out the names of those guests or visitors who will appear subsequent to this writing.

The program each day started promptly at 8 o'clock and at each hour was broken for a short rest period. The final hour of each of the first four days was devoted to a discussion of the subjects presented that day, at which time each member of the class had an opportunity to have clarified any points of which he might be uncertain. The last half of the fifth day was devoted to a general discussion of the week's activities.

Appropriately enough, a snow storm developed on the day that Mr. Lanning presented his subject on fire weather and he was extended a most cordial invitation to return at frequent intervals during the summer months. The snow also provided a means of recreation and exercise during the breaks between classes as several lively snow ball fights took place.

Many thanks to Ranger Mac Dixon of El Dorado County and his crew for being hosts during these three weeks. The group ate at the station and most of the classes were quartered there. Cook Schwab turned out some fine meals for a group much larger than normally would be present even during the summer months. It was the consensus of the group attending the school that it was time well spent and that each one emerged better fitted not only for accomplishing his job but also for passing on the training to members of the organization who will come to work later on in various capacities.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

PROMOTIONS DISTRICT III

Promotions being the order of the day, congratulations are being extended to Assistant Rangers Hayes, Harris, and Merle on their appointments on April 1, 1948, to Associate Ranger positions. Their new assignments will be as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Allan J. Hayes | Nevada County |
| Robert F. Harris | Tuolumne County |
| William E. Merle | Placer County |

Dispatcher James L. Barnhart of El Dorado County will be appointed on April 1, 1948, as an Assistant Ranger in that same county.

The welcome mat is out to Jack E. Amundsen who will be appointed as Dispatcher in District III Headquarters office on April 1, 1948.

Fred M. Dunow
Deputy State Forester

TUOLUMNE COUNTY - PROGENY PARADISE

If any of you should be contemplating an addition to the family and want to be certain of positive results, merely ask for a transfer to Tuolumne County. Here, the administrative personnel propagate progeny prolifically. February 7 welcomed the arrival of Robert Reid Higgins, second son of Assistant Ranger Ray Higgins, who wasted no time in passing out the Roi-Tans.

With a little help from his son Chet, an ex-foreman of the C.D.F. Ranger Ed Minners was able to proudly announce the birth of his first grandchild, Martin Edgar Minners, on March 14.

Not to be outdone, Assistant Ranger Clint Phillips presented to the world a new sweetheart of the C.D.F., Christine Lynne Phillips, borne on March 23.

We are waiting to see if the trend will continue when our new Associate Ranger arrives.

A welcome addition to the office staff in the person of Mrs. Anne Wilsey was recently made in Tuolumne County. Anne will assume the duties of an intermediate clerk and will aid Dispatcher Harry Hall under the five-day week schedule.

Contrary to initial observations, it now appears that recent rains and snow will cause enough vegetative growth to support a few fires in Tuolumne County this fire season. Under the new decreased work week and increased salary, firefighters were considering the hiring of assistants to do their labor for them. But now the changed picture indicates that all hands will earn their income—and then some!

Recently completed in Tuolumne County was the new Blanchard Fire Station, whose personnel will have the suppression responsibility of the county's valuable lower elevation rangelands. The planting of ash, walnut, and orange trees promise to bring "Little Siberia" a park-like appearance within twenty years or so.

Also nearing completion is the reconstruction of barracks at the Sonora headquarters camp.

Ed Minners
State Forest Ranger

NEWS ITEM - RAFFERTY

MANILA - FLASH — Via P.U. (Phillipine Underground)

Rafferty today reluctantly denied the widespread rumors of his intent to run as a 4th party presidential candidate. The usually reticent Mr. Rafferty's brief statement is found on pages 3 to 108, column 1 to 8 inclusive.

Signed: P. U.

DOTTA MOVES TO MOUNTAIN HOME TRACT

1. Daniel Dotta has recently been appointed as Assistant Ranger in charge of the Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County.

2. He replaces Lee Burcham, who has recently been promoted to Technician, and has been assigned to the post of Range Improvement with headquarters in Sacramento.

3. Dan was formerly with the Division in District I as Senior Engineering Aid and has been with us for over a year now. During his time in the army he was with the Engineer Corps and served in the South Pacific for about three years. He was graduated from the University of California School of Forestry with the class of 1941.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

NEWS FROM KINGS COUNTY

1. Construction of new houses is the main event in Kings County, you will

hear more and more about new houses in this county, as, plans are in the making for Murray Station.

2. The first nine weeks in 1948 show an increase of fires in Kings County 100% over that same period of last year.

3. During one week of February a training school was held in Fresno, by the State Division of Forestry. "THIS WAS THE BEST TRAINING SCHOOL WE HAVE EVER HAD."

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

PICTURES TELL THE STORY

Hereafter when we have a visit from the "boss" and he inquires about the work we can make him comfortable in our best chair and bring out our photograph album. No, we wont attempt to take his mind off the subject by showing him snap-shots taken at the beach last summer, instead we will show him a complete story of our work. In connection with the amateur photography shop the CYA provides for their wards we are keeping a pictorial record of our work. Pictures are taken on each project periodically, when the project is finished the pictures are placed in the proper order in our album.

James S. Stokes
Forestry Work Project Supervisor

EQUIPMENT TALKS FIRE PREVENTION IN TULARE COUNTY

Tulare County has inaugurated a system of small prevention sign display that seems to afford us an excellent opportunity to keep our fire slogans before the public eye. Tulare's system simply involves the securing of a card sign in the space on the tailgate of a pickup. The sign is secured by drilling of holes and providing half-round to go around the exterior edge of the sign to prevent its blowing off. This type of advertising is a most common practice followed by taxi cab companies and other public carriers. The Division of Forestry is no less in the advertising business than a private corporation as we certainly are interested in getting our prevention slogans before the public eye in every possible manner.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

TRAINING SCHOOLS, DISTRICT V

Recently, Monterey and San Benito Counties completed a joint school for the training of personnel in fire prevention, suppression, etc. This school was held at the Tularcitos Station in the upper Carmel Valley. The highlight of the school was the Saint Patrick's Day feed of corned beef and cabbage, home spun cakes with green frosting, and ice cream. The tables were decorated with green table cloths and were crawling with green snakes. The writer hadn't seen so many snakes since a trip a few years back with those two able disciples of the W.C.T.U. Mister R. A. Taylor and Horace "Moose" Kennedy. However, I was assured by Ranger Austin that the snakes were only toys--My! What a relief. All this work including preparation of the meal was the brain child of that rotund maestro of the skillet, Walt "stuffing pepper" Hickox, who for the past few years has been stationed at King City Headquarters,

Monterey County.

Members of Deputy Strickland's staff also attended a training school in Santa Cruz County, and also did partake of a scrumptuous lunch. As we have two more schools yet to attend, I am afraid that I am going to have to offer for sale my size 30 belt.

A MEETING AT BEN LOMOND

Assistant Deputy Carl Albertus and Forestry Investigator Mace Pewtherer attended a meeting of C.Y.A. personnel at Ben Lomond C.Y.A. Camp where some interesting talks were given by C.Y.A. personnel. A very tasty lunch was served at noon, consisting of baked ham and all the trimmings which included apple pie and ice cream. From the amount of food consumed by a certain representative of District III, you would think that he had returned from a hard day on District III's snipe survey board. Our Assistant Deputy conveyed to the world what surgery can do by consumming large quantities of ham, potatoes, and three dishes of ice-cream vanilla that is.

You know, when a Forestry man does a good piece of work or solves some difficult case, he has praise heaped upon him. But seldom does anyone hear about office personnel.

To any of you who have seen the new Law Enforcement Officer's Handbook, just off the press, you can realize the huge amount of work required in assembling and editing this book. Therefore, I think the Division should give a tip of the hat, and a well done, to Phyllis Collins, who is responsible for this fine book. To the many employees of the Division who never get past the guard into the inner sanctum of Building No. 1, Phyllis is our Chief Deputy's, C. R. Clar, Secretary.

WAR AGAINST THE PLANT UNDERGROUND

On a bright sunny day, and sometimes we have them in Monterey County while working at my desk, I heard a sound coming from the outside near my window. It sounded something like a "phiit phiit" and a swishing of foliage. Unable to belay my curiosity any longer, I looked out and lo and behold what I saw was Assistant Technician John Dowdakin down on his knees with a determined look on his face and a flit gun firmly grasped in his hands. Seems as though John's attention had been called to the fact that aphids were well deployed on the trunks and branches of some dwarf lime trees in the building's patio. Now this was more than John could stand, as only recently he returned from District VI where a successful battle was waged against the pine beetle. So I left John in the patio laying down a heavy barrage of black leaf 40 in the best military manner. If Dowdakin is successful in eliminating the aphid hoard, will this bring a demand from the ant work for help from E.R.P.--or will there be a race of stunted ants in Monterey for lack of an aphid dairy?

INTRODUCING OUR NEW ARRIVALS IN DISTRICT V

John D. Otter, Jr. - weight 8 lbs. 14 oz., born March 9, 1948 at the Peninsula Community Hospital. As everyone knows, papa John is the big transit and axe man for District 5. Father is doing nicely and plans to start training

John, Jr., in engineering soon. He already has him working on triangles.

Elizabeth Ann Sparks - weight 8 lbs., born March 12, 1948, at the Santa Cruz Hospital. We understand that papa Dick Sparks, our mechanic, has recovered fully from his ordeal and plans to start back to work most any day now.

Forestry cook Lea R. Over passed away suddenly on March 13, 1948, at the Henard Rest Home in Los Gatos of coronary occlusion. Lea, as everyone knew him, entered State service on July 1, 1942, and during his employment here was assigned to various camps in the county, where he became acquainted with many employees in the Division. Personnel in Santa Clara County feel the loss of "Lea" due to the long association together.

Mace Pewtherer
Investigator

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR EAST BAY PROTECTION UNITS

At the request of the East Bay Hills Fire Protection Committee, the State Division of Forestry, the U.S. Forest Service and the Extension Service presented a two-day training program to members of organizations that have an interest in protecting the East Bay Hills from fire. Four city fire departments, eight fire districts, the East Bay Regional Park, City of Oakland Park Department, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, and Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company were represented. Approximately 160 men attended each day which was far in excess of the 50 that had been expected by the organizers to attend.

The program was as follows:

Woodbridge Metcalf - Extension Forester, acted as Chairman, keynoted program and gave a summary of topics covered by speakers.

Charles Buck - California Forest & Range Experiment Station discussed fire behavior with relation to varying conditions of weather, fuel types and topography. On the second day he discussed "Organization of Fire Fighting Man Power and Equipment on Going Fires" which topic was further clarified by the showing of two excellent movies. These movies also gave many good shots of actual line construction methods and details of line placement.

George Britton, State Forest Ranger, Santa Clara County Gervise Nash, Assistant State Forest Ranger, Santa Clara County, together discussed initial attack action, line location and construction, backfiring, mop-up and patrol. This section of the program was illustrated with slides on which attack methods were shown.

Carl Albertus, Assistant Deputy Forester, discussed "Speed and Strength of Attack Requirements and How They Can Be Met." Organization of the departments for most effective action as individual units and for concerted action under a mutual aid program was also treated in this discussion.

Gervise Nash, Assistant State Forest Ranger, Santa Clara County, Carl Albertus, Assistant Deputy Forester, field demonstration of fire line location and construction including explanation and demonstration of the use of various

types of fire fighting tools.

In my opinion this meeting was very successful as the interest and attention shown by those attending was very apparent. Many of those present were members of volunteer departments who contributed their time without compensation in order to attend. Others were "off shift" members of paid departments who voluntarily attended. Although few questions were asked during the meeting, each speaker was kept busy during the lunch hours and after the meetings answering all types of questions relative to fire suppression.

Before the meeting was adjourned the opinion was expressed that a similar meeting should be held next year.

C. G. Albertus
Assistant Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT VI REPORTS

We, in the District VI Headquarters are losing our Personnel Clerk, Aideen Mahlman. We regret that it is necessary for Aideen to withdraw from our District VI family, but duty to her husband calls for a trip to Asuncion, Paraguay, South America where Harold Mahlman, the husband in question, has been commissioned by the State Department to instruct in one of their trade schools. Bon Voyage Aideen and Harold, we shall miss you and we wish you much success in your new venture.

Our personnel has otherwise been fortified by the recent appointment of Norman J. Harris of Riverside as our Forestry Investigator. We welcome this new member to our family.

News from the field:

ORANGE COUNTY

It is not news any longer about the general drought throughout the State of California and we have already had several grass and small brush fires during the winter and past months during which we experienced some severe dry weather conditions. However, Orange County has confidence of keeping everything under control since the organization of a new type suppression crew, namely the "Poker Crew". It all began recently when a four man crew comprised of Foreman Wayne King, Fireman William King, and Fireman Mathew King, and Truck Driver Claude Lewellen responded to a small grass fire. Bystanders at the fire soon learned the names of the men and bestowed the "Poker Crew" title upon them — Three Kings and a Joker — (No offense Lewellen).

We do have an important news item and that is that it did rain on Saturday, March 13 to the tune of about an average of an inch of rain throughout most of our area. This is the first rain since the first part of February for which we and all farmers are thankful and are hoping to have some more.

Orange County did its bit toward the observance of the Fourteenth California Conservation Week during the week of March 7 to 14. The general public was contacted through the cooperation of local newspapers printing conservation articles and posters. Some movies were shown to local service clubs and recommendations were made to the Soil Conservation Service in the Fullerton area for various

types of tree and shrub plantings. The interest shown by all and their pledge to participate in the conservation of California's natural resources will surely help to keep California green and golden.

Ward Cockerton of the State Bureau of Education, Department of Vocational Education, presented a thirty hour training school to Orange County personnel. Best and latest methods of firefighting means was gone over. Mr. Cockerton also is assisting in training some of the fifteen volunteer rural fire departments in the County. These are all night classes and several representatives of each department attend for a period of four classes. Thus, he will be occupied in this training program for the whole month of March. We are sure a lot of good will result from this training program.

A good delegation from Orange County attended the very instructive and entertaining meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Firewardens on March 13 at Glendale. Old acquaintances were renewed and a good time was had by all.

In our last dispatch, we mentioned how some of our office force were taking off the week ends to see the snow in some of our mountainous areas---it is strange how things finally happened, but one of our blonde secretaries, Miss Betty Paulson must have engaged another week end in hoop rolling and one wound up on her third finger, left hand with a diamond inset. You may all guess the rest.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Latest news from the Julian Insect Zone from February 1 to March 12.

During the month of February and the first two weeks in March, personnel assigned to the Julian Insect Zone has increased considerably. Mrs. L. Angel has been assigned to the project as cook, which caused the work crew to heave a sigh of relief at being relieved of cooking their own meals. As of the first week in March, five more drivers were assigned to the project. They were K. Pahl, H. Rool, D. Shepard, R. Nichols, and F. McDermott. This now brings to ten the number of men assigned to the project. This increase in personnel was made possible through the contribution of $2500 dollars to the project by the County of San Diego.

Work has now been completed in the two largest homesite areas, Whispering Pines and Pine Hills, and now that we are out from under the powerlines, telephone wires, and away from the homes, work is expected to progress much more rapidly from the standpoint of acreage covered. To date about 1100 acres have been worked over and some 1150 trees and poles felled and treated, all by burning. With the additional crew, this figure should be quite a bit larger by the end of the final month work ahead of us. Due to favorable weather conditions of snow and rain since the first of February, we have been able to keep our treating apace of our falling, but due to the rapidly changing weather conditions it has been necessary to be exceedingly cautious in our burning, as the country dries out very rapidly. As the area continues to become drier with the approach of Spring, we are preparing to switch in our treating methods from burning to spraying. Mr. Patterson, authority on sprays and treating, from the Forest Insect Laboratory, has been down to advise us on their preparation and proper usage. Mr. Paul Keen and Mr. George Struble,

also from the Forest Insect Laboratory at Berkeley, have been down several times to check on the project progress and Mr. Ed Engen from the same office has been assigned to work with the project to make studies of the infestation.

The first of March saw the Julian Insect Zone branch out into two zones of operation with the allocation of $10,000 for work in the Cuyamaca State Park to be known as the Cuyamaca State Park Insect Zone. With a relatively short period of time remaining for treatment and a large number of trees to be treated, a large crew is being placed on this project in an endeavor to accomplish as much as possible before the start of the fire season. In addition to six drivers and a cook assigned to the project from San Diego County, a crew of 20 men from Northern California are expected to be assigned also.

With the large increase in personnel and work to be done, Engineer Neil Rice and Assistant Ranger Floyd Lewis have been very busy setting up the new operation as well as working with the original project. Assistant Ranger Mike Schori has been assigned to work with the Cuyamaca Project and has been aided by Ranger Dean Bennett of Riverside County.

With two projects now under way in this area and large crews at work, we are looking forward to a busy month in our "Battle of the bugs" in San Diego County.

John H. Hastings
Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY (Cont'd.)

"Hello" from San Diego County's Structural Station, Camp Elliott.

Camp Elliott is one of the many empty military camps in this County and it is located North and East of San Diego City. Due to the Shortage of bed room in the San Diego County Hospital, the County has taken over this camp for use as a custodial hospital.

At the time this Station was organized, Ranger Miller and Associate Bertsch (now Assistant Deputy) conferred with the Board of Supervisors to decide upon the fire protection to be given to this County Hospital and the decision was that the County would maintain the Navy fire department at Elliott and man it with Forestry personnel. This station was opened by the County on January 1, 1946.

Any person who has gone from the Division of Forestry to a structural fire fighting agency will well know the amount of hard training it took to train Foreman, Drivers, and suppression men in the art of structural fire fighting, not to mention an Assistant Ranger. It was really a big jump we took going from our small pumpers to the 1,000 gallon-a-minute Seagraves.

Begging your pardon, but we must tell you of the biggest pain we have had, and that is the maintenance of these trucks. We were very fortunate in having a very congenial "Mech", Stuart Stuver, and as he or anyone will tell you, these trucks are very different from anything the State has used. Order parts, etc, without manuals was really a problem. And, now for some information about the trucks: they are the small V 12 type, 185 horsepower and carry an average of 1500 feet of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose,

300 feet of 1½ inch hose, plus 250 feet of hard line. As far as the rest of the equipment, they are equipped like any of the city rigs, chemical and mechanical foam, smoke masks, rescue breathing apparatus, and extension ladders, etc.

We have gone through several tests given by the Navy Fire Marshall's Office and our grade has been above average for our type of department. We feel we should be able to take care of any emergency that comes up.

We want to extend an invitation to everyone who might be interested in our sort of department to visit us whenever you have an opportunity.

Clark L. Rockwell
Assistant Ranger

RIVERSIDE COUNTY - FORESTRY GOES TO A COUNTY FAIR

Beginning on February 11 and continuing through the 15th, the annual Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival was held at Indio in the heart of the Coachella Valley and center of the nation's date gardens. During the five days of operation 68,102 persons passed through the fair ground gates.

To the Division of Forestry of Riverside County was entrusted the responsible task of protecting from fire the far flung arena of tents and buildings, barns and concessions. Some idea of the size of this job may be gathered from the following data. There were 220 horse stalls in continuous lines, all of wooden construction with canvas roofs and deep straw covered floors. There were two large quonset huts and one 60 x 200 ft. tent estimated to hold a million dollars worth of exhibits. There were 280 fine show horses and 188 parade and work horses totaling a value of a million dollars besides an estimated five hundred thousand dollars worth of cattle, sheep, hogs, etc. One showman alone brought in $250,000 worth of concessions. Fortunately, the State-County forestry station is located on the edge of the fair grounds and several pieces of equipment were constantly standby for emergency. Two Assistant Rangers were on continuous patrol of grounds and buildings during the entire time. Because of the unbroken vigilance in the watching of hazards, there were no fires of any nature.

Highlighting the event on the part of the Division of Forestry was the educational tent where sound-color motion pictures on fire prevention and forestry were presented each afternoon and evening. In this venture we teamed up with the County Health Department and the results were far beyond our greatest expectations. By the use of two projectors and by alternating forestry and health pictures, we gave a continuous program, breaking for only a few minutes on each hour. To our amazement we soon found that our large tent was only about half large enough and that people were banking up outside waiting their turn. It is estimated that during the parts of four days, through which we operated, between five and seven thousand people were able to see and hear the entire program.

On the strength of this, we hope to secure the use of one of the permanent buildings for next season's presentation, with more seating capacity and better all round facilities for this is public relations at its best.

We especially desire to thank Ranger Don Bauer of the U.S. Forest Service for making available to us several new sound-color films on forest

subjects which contributed much to the success of the project. In the spirit of cooperation we presented several showings of new films on the date industry of the Coachella Valley at the request of the Date Growers Association and a premier showing of a paper making and forest conservation picture by the Zellerbach Paper Company.

Finally to Assistant Ranger Charlie Still in whose district the fair took place goes the bulk of the credit for placing his organization favorably in the minds of the public. Charlie worked night and day with this one thought in mind and it was gratifying to know that when the big event was over he was satisfied with a job well done.

Charles Van Fleet
Assistant Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

"IN MEMORIUM"

Bruce Yocum, Forest Fire Lookout at Little Mountain since May, 1945, passed away on March 1, 1948. The CDF will miss him. His knowledge of the terrain was invaluable, and when Bruce said to "roll" we rolled. His death will leave quite a vacant spot in our "Family circle".

In the paragraphs following fire prevention as conducted on a county-wide basis from late 1946 to date will be briefed and evaluated.

Prior to Fire Prevention Week 1946, A State Forestry representative made contacts with municipal departments, U.S. Forest Service and Red Cross regarding a joint effort for the prevention observance. The result of this activity was a fire equipment disaster demonstration and exhibit held at the Upland Civic Center. This was opened with a parade, and the equipment on display from 1 P.M. to 9 P.M. All the while continuous conservation and prevention movies were being shown in the Upland engine house which was being used as a temporary theatre. Uniformed personnel were on duty to explain and demonstrate the units. Approximately 800 persons attended.

A consensus of public opinion was and is that the fire services should continue to sell fire consciousness with more frequent dramatic approaches such as the aforementioned. FIRE and the corrective must be held constantly before the public's eye with every means known to the service - take the DON'T out of prevention - it's a commodity, sell it!

Ranger Skinner's office contacted the County Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Thrall; at which time the State Forestry fire prevention campaign was correlated with the school curriculum for 1947. Forestry personnel conducted numerous motion pictures and demonstration programs in the County schools. It is felt by educators that the value of these assembly type programs is greatly enhanced when presented by uniformed personnel together with fire equipment on hand for inspection. As a follow-up to the School Programs a Home Inspection blank was distributed by teachers with the pamphlet "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO MY COTTAGE", as well as a FIRE phone card with the nearest fire station's number.

This questionnaire was formulated from a sample NBFU form, substituting questions with particular reference to San Bernardino County conditions. The illustrated pamphlet being retained at home with the student returning the questionnaire to be collected and evaluated by the District Assistant Ranger for prevention information which might aid him in carrying out field inspections.

Observations of fire service personnel and educators in San Bernardino County regarding prevention films are that they should be in color and interspersed with numerous action sequences, tending to drive home the lesson more forcibly and hold audiences, attention, both juvenile and adult.

Referring to motion pictures, much valuable ground is being lost in using films, the headings of which are advertising the U.S. Forest Service, L. A. County Forestry, or an insurance underwriter, etc. The question is frequently put: "Doesn't the California Division of Forestry have any films?"

Mrs. W. Brake, of the Junior Red Cross together with Mrs. Ethel Johnson, Director of Education, San Bernardino City School system cooperated with this Department in carrying fire prevention to the schools of San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, and adjacent city systems.

The State Forestry gained much ground in the prevention field and will continue to do so through the excellent cooperation of the radio stations and newspapers throughout San Bernardino County. The public utilities, private water companies, agricultural interests, etc. have more than followed through with the Divisions' prevention work by making their mailing lists available for the dispersal of literature.

There is no doubt that an important element of this activity is the development of a substantial auxiliary fire organization through local cooperators. In order to formulate this auxiliary to the satisfaction of cooperators, a fire plan form was decided upon - being adapted from that illustrated on Page 21 of the Forest Practice Rules pamphlet, 1947. When making contacts the State Forestry field man fills out four copies of the fire plan, for distribution to the Cooperator, State Dispatcher, District Assistant Ranger, and one forwarded through headquarters to the Fire Control Officer, U.S. Forest Service. The Division in developing the aforementioned has advanced goodwill and fire control and brought into being a voluntary fire prevention bureau.

Still another important part of the public relations activity has been organizing and training volunteer fire departments. At present these are composed primarily of personnel and built around Forestry facilities in the communities of San Antonio Heights, Etiwanda, Highlands, Mentone, and Yucaipa. They have aided the advancement of fire prevention and control within their respective areas while cooperating with Ranger Skinner's Office.

Perhaps it may well be said that prevention has three component parts: public relations, field contacts, personnel training and indoctrination.

We have enforced a policy of field inspections similar to that carried out by other fire protection agencies. With the aid of Ranger George Lang,

San Bernardino National Forest, an inspection record sheet was devised suitable to the Division of Forestry's operational area. It provides Ranger Skinner with a four year prevention picture of each establishment, farm buildings, apiary, commercial, etc, within the "High Fire Hazard" area of the above named county.

The field man must be neat of person, enthusiastic about his purpose and thus carry on where the Public Relations man left off at the local civic meeting. He may make protection suggestions regarding fire equipment, water development, etc, never once becoming the officious public servant. (For want of courtesy the mountain was lost).

In addition to the field inspections, cooperative hazard reduction burning was carried out along main roads, around dumps and semi-public recreation areas in the Division's zone. Also nearly 1000 signs were posted along routes of travel, swimming pools, out of the way places which might be frequented by fishermen, hunters, hikers, etc. Notwithstanding radio broadcasts, the public relations campaign and field contacts carried fire prevention instruction and information to 78,368 people within this County during the calendar year, 1947.

Personnel at the Division's fire control stations are key factors in the public relations campaign, cleanliness of person, station and equipment are a must, the exception being fire or heavy work. Training in fire control and public relations must be brought up to a high level of efficiency for when they see us, the preachers of fire prevention, fighting fire ineptly or a slovenly condition about our establishments, we are quick to be criticized. Present a business-like and efficient organization to the local resident or traveling public and we will have gone far on the road to reduction of fires and fire losses.

With reference to man-hours in public relations work, the writer's opinion is approximately 2½ hours for preparation and travel to 45 minutes of presentation.

Charles Ulrey
Assistant Ranger

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### COLLEGE FELLOWSHIPS

The New York State College of Forestry expects to have 22 fellowships available for the college year 1948-1949. These fellowships carry stipends varying from $585 to $1463 for a 9-months' period, and are available to students pursuing study leading to the Master of Forestry, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. To be considered for a fellowship an applicant must meet the College standards for admission to graduate study. Applications should be made by June 1 to the Assistant Dean, The New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse 10, New York.

SAY IT SIMPLY

Newspapers complained that too many of the stories they got from the Associated Press were wooden and hard to read. But none of them would - or could - say why. To find out what was wrong, the A.P. hired Dr. Rudolf Flesch Vienna-born psychologist, author (The Art of Plain Talk) and Mr. Fix-It of writing. Dr. Flesch's report shocked the A.P.

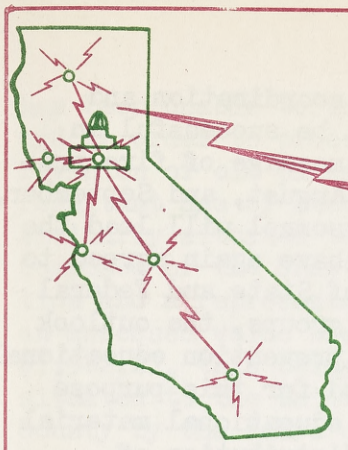
Said he: "The stuff is monotonous.....The leads are not more readable than the stories - as they naturally should be - but less readable...What's more, the better the story the worse the lead.....Foreign dispatches are consistently less readable than U.S. dispatches....."

Why are the stories hard to read? Too many long sentences and too many Latin words. In Flesch's "standard" writing (i. e., "what the average American will read with ease and interest"), a sentence should contain not more than 19 words; 100 words not more than 150 syllables. A readable story should also contain at least 6% "personal" words (names and personal pronouns) and 12% "personal" sentences (questions, commands, requests).

Running over a day's output of the A.P., Dr. Flesch found that the stories were far below his standard. They varied from "fairly poor" to "poor" (his next to lowest grade). He cited one horrible example of a lead: "University of Washington scientists reported today experiments have shown that microplankton organisms act as radio activity 'carriers' in Bikini waters, keeping the waters radioactive." How many readers, asked Dr. Flesch, know what "microplankton organisms" are? The same story was turned over to the A.P. Science writer, Howard W. Blakeslee, to Flesch out. His version: "Discovery of the missing links that will spread dangerous atomic bomb atoms to human beings was reported today at the University of Washington".

The A. P. took its medicine like a man. In effect, it ordered all hands to learn to say it simply or get out. And it plans to have Dr. Flesch read copy on its stories for a year. Last week, the A.P. professed to see an improvement, but was still finding plain English hard to write. In a memo to the staff, Assistant General Manager Alan Gould wrote: "Too frequently it seems that we contrive the hardest way to say some of the simplest things."

Time, February 1948



# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

## STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 4 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor April, 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

## NELSON REPORTS APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

FORESTRY

The unpredictable and abnormal weather conditions that have been experienced in California for many months continued during April and established in parts of the State a near record in the amount of rainfall normally experienced during the month. These late rains made savings in crew employment possible in all areas except Southern California. In that area, because of limited rainfall, the Division activated most of its stations on or about April 15, and progressed with the hiring of fire suppression men consistent with the usual trend of seasonal employment. Because of snow and rain conditions in central and northern California, the Division intends to hire only key personnel during the early part of May. New fire crew men will undergo rigid training this year in each of the districts during the first two week period of their employment at either ranger unit schools or district-wide schools. When they have completed the initial training course, the men will be effectively used in field fire prevention and maintenance work until such time as existing fires demand all of their attention and efforts.

Despite the abundant rainfall during March and April, this season promises to be unusual and unpredictable. A short period of warm weather, accompanied by winds, will dry out the vegetation to the extent that it will be readily inflammable. An example of this condition was experienced in Amador County on May 4. A light snowfall covered the ground at medium elevations on Friday, April 30th. On Saturday, May 1, weather turned warm and dry with existing mild winds. On May 4th, a fire believed to have been started by a careless fisherman burned fifteen acres of forest land before Division of Forestry men could get to the fire and a total of twenty five acres by the time the fire was completely under control.

Friday, May 28th, will be the opening date of the 1948 fire prevention educational campaign sponsored by the California Fire Prevention Committee and spear-headed by this Division and the United States Forest Service. Fire prevention campaign materials, consisting of newspaper ads, radio short announcements, posters, leaflets, booklets, and other visual materials are being shipped at the present time to more than 100 cooperating agencies who have indicated active interest and a willingness to

cooperate in the campaign. It is hoped that through effective coordination and constant effort of supervising personnel that the campaign will be successful in reaching mountain, rural, and urban people alike with a strong message of fire prevention during the four hazardous summer months of June, July, August, and September. Division of Forestry and U.S. Forest Service administrative personnel will lead the efforts. The major oil, transportation, and utility companies have again agreed to support the campaign wholeheartedly and backed by the efforts of State and Federal agencies and the multitude of industrial, civic, and community groups, the outlook for a successful program is most encouraging. Augmenting fire prevention educational material supplied by the Federal Government from funds allocated for this purpose out of Clarke McNary moneys, this Division has prepared limited educational material for the campaign. Among special projects contemplated is the distribution of approximately a million leaflets, one to each car or truck entering the State through the Department of Agriculture Quarantine Stations. To remind the travelling public of the need for care with fire, this Division will erect, during May and June, two hundred 4' x 8' roadside signs on State highway right-of-ways. Graphically portrayed on the roadside sign will be a hand snuffing out a cigarette in a car ash tray and a message that reads "Be Sure That Cigarette Is Out".

Construction work continued this month on the twenty five new fire suppression tank trucks. This equipment should be delivered to the field by the middle of June unless construction is hampered by the current machinist strike at the factory in Berkeley, that is manufacturing pumps to be utilized on the trucks. If the strike prevails, it is possible delivery date will be set back considerably. Contracts were let this month to the Coast Manufacturing Company of Concord for build-up work on 61 suppression crew trucks. The construction period is 75 days and the Dodge Automobile Company is presently delivering the truck chassis to the Division. It is expected that these trucks will be in the field and in operation by August 1. The Philco Corporation was the successful bidder this month on 34 land station radio sets and 13 repeater sets. Expected delivery date on this equipment is August 1. The 54 mobile radio sets being modified by the Motorola Corporation are presently being delivered and installation of all these sets should be completed by June 10. The Link Radio Corporation entered into a service agreement this month with the State for the modification of 34 mobile units and it is expected that these will be received from the manufacturers by August 15th.

Despite rainy weather, a great deal of field maintenance construction and survey work was accomplished in April. A complete survey was in progress on the Napa County Communications System of approximately 65 to 70 miles in length. A power line survey was completed in rugged country in Siskiyou County. A truck trail reconnaissance survey of 15 miles was conducted on the Latour State Forest. Administrative site surveys have been completed on 15 separate locations and either deeds or leases are in preparation for the sites. Topographic water development and sewerage disposal surveys have been made in connection with each of the sites. Much difficulty is being encountered in property lease and procurement negotiations because of the present inflationary conditions. Construction is about 90% completed on the Mt. Jackson Lookout tower in Sonoma County and the Ranger's residence at Felton, Santa Cruz County, has been completely reconstructed. Fire suppression crew barracks at Hopland, Mendocino County, Fort Jones, Siskiyou County, and Higgins Corner, Nevada County, have been reconstructed by the contractor and are now ready for occupancy. Because of commitments and priorities, the State Architect's Office

has been unable to prepare plans for this Division's postwar construction program, and in order to proceed with the work, the Division is having to resort to the revision of old plans and to the acceptance of prefabricated structures with the resultant use of steel buildings. A determination of what constitutes similar land, similarly situated to the Latour State Forest in Shasta County was made by a committee composed of the Shasta County Tax Assessor, a representative of the Board of Equalization and a representative of the State Forester. As a result of the determination, an assessed value was made and the County has invoiced the Division of Forestry for $1,382.21, this being an amount equivalent to taxes levied on similar land similarly situated to the Latour State Forest. A public hearing was held this month in Lake County by the Board of Supervisors of that county on the proposed acquisition of the Boggs Mountain Tract as a State Forest. No objection to the acquisition was expressed at the meeting and negotiations are being continued. Outside appraisals of timber on the tract are presently being made under service agreement with two consulting foresters.

To date, 539 timber operator registration certificates have been issued by this Division.

FILM "THEN IT HAPPENED" RECEIVED BY DIVISION

Seven prints of the Maine forest fire disaster film "Then It Happened" were received this month from Forest Service offices in Washington. The Forest Service graciously made available these copies to the Division from their own supply. Had they not done so, this excellent film would not have been available to the Division until mid June.

One print of the film has been made available to each District for use district wide. A copy will be loaned to the State Division of Beaches and Parks for showing before campfire groups in the major State parks throughout the summer.

1948 RANGER MEETING

State Forest Rangers, Assistant Deputy and Deputy State Foresters met in Sacramento on April 22 and 23 for the annual rangers' conference. Major discussions of the first day included the 1948-49 budget, the postwar program, fiscal procedures, motor vehicle and radio plans. Discussion leaders were State Forester Nelson, Operations Officer Pomponio, Fire Control Officer Winters.

Friday morning fire prevention was the subject first on the agenda followed by an address by Ralph Hanna of the U.S. Weather Bureau. E. A. Hosmer, Communications Engineer for the State Department of Finance favored the group with an excellent discussion of radio problems, past, present, and future.

A large part of the afternoon session was devoted to a helicopter demonstration at the State Fair grounds. More than twenty-five of the administrative personnel test hopped the plane and all were impressed with its extreme maneuverability as well as its potential uses in forest fire control work. The afternoon session was closed by State Forester Nelson who generally discussed Division administration. A dinner dance followed at the Hotel Senator and was attended by more than 110 people.

WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY PRAISES FOREST PRACTICE BOOKLETS

The following letter was received from Clyde Martin of Weyerhaeuser Timber Company:

"Have just had an opportunity to go over the Forest Practice Rules for California as put out by your department."

"This is the best job of editing such a handbook that I have yet seen. It is compact, attractive, and contains the necessary correlating information"

"My congratulations on a swell job."

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

OPERATION NEWCOMERS

We wish to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs. Lucille McNerney to the staff of the Operations Section. Lucille is not a new-comer to State Employment; she was formerly with Bureau of Purchases for four years. We are glad to have you with us, Lucille.

Mrs. Madelin Cvitkovich came to work for the Division of Forestry in February, to give much needed assistance in the Filing and Mailing Section. However, in March, she went on sick leave for three weeks with the mumps, and three weeks thereafter, Bill Geach came down with the mumps, so we are wondering, is Madelin passing the mumps or the mail?

Jack Sommers, Supervising Account Clerk of the Operations Section, passed "It's A Boy" cigars and a very tasty box of candy yesterday. That accounts for his happy smile for the last couple of weeks.

Melvin Pomponio
Operations Officer

DIVISION COOPERATION PRAISED IN CALAVERAS COUNTY

With the local populace out training and exercising their favorite frogs in preparation for the famed Calaveras Frog Jump and County Fair May 14, 15, and 16, our own frog fanciers swung into action with the construction of an exhibit which we hope will be judged "one of the finest". Considerable encouragement has been given us by the following letter received from C. T. Mills, Secretary and Manager of the Fair:

"We wish to thank you for your splendid cooperation in making available to us a standby pumping plant. Our water situation is so critical this year that a standby plant had to be secured. We hope to have our water system in before another year so we may stop getting water the hard way. I had the pleasure of addressing a large group of Fair men last year, at which time I told them I had received more cooperation from the Division of Forestry than any other State agency that I had dealt with. I want to thank you for that continued cooperation, and assure you that I will put in a plug every time I get a chance. In order

that this may not be one-sided, allow us to offer every cooperation that we can from the Fair Board and myself to the Division of Forestry".

Although now located in Tuolumne County following his recent promotion to Associate Ranger, R. F. "Bert" Harris has again planned our Frog Jump exhibit this year and is being ably assisted by Foreman H. C. Woods in preparing a woodland scene which will really sell "Fire Prevention". Assistant Ranger Herb "Blacky" Caton is also carrying a heavy load in helping to make this year's Fair one of the bet, not only by being Parade chairman but also in sporting a fancy set of soot-black whiskers.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

THIS AND THAT FROM DISTRICT IV

District IV claims three new Associate Rangers as a result of the new five-day week program. Jack Hanson, formerly Assistant Ranger in District VI, is now working in Tulare County; Ray Higgins, Former Assistant Ranger in District III, Tuolomne County and Hank Arnold (not to be confused with Hap Arnold) formerly Assistant Ranger in District I, Sonoma County, are still working in District Headquarters but will be assigned to some county soon.

If anyone knows of an available share-croppers cabin down here in this dust bowl, please notify any of the above....I am sure they are going to have a slight housing problem.

In carrying out our public relations program here in District IV, we thought talking to a group of future foresters of the 9th grade in a local high school was another routine affair, but it turned out to be a little unusual.

Upon arriving at the school, Dan Dotta, from the Mt. Home Forest, and myself were greeted by a very charming young miss of the 9th grade who escorted us to our audience and there introduced us to the master of ceremonies for the group, Mr. Cunningham who was not much bigger than the average sized peanut and about 14 years old! He introduced us, conducted a very good meeting after which we were graciously escorted from the building by the same little miss who had brought us in. Not once did we see an adult or teacher. What will this younger generation be doing on their own next?

Not to be outdone by any other eagerbeaver fire eaters, we too are going to hold a field training school. We've already changed the date twice because this damp weather prevented us from having a good fire problem but we think we can go through with it now. The dates are set for May 10-13. All District personnel will be the guests of Ranger Bill Pennington of Tulare County.

District IV soon will take its place in the sun again as far as publicity and other fire prevention activities are concerned because our Fire

Prevention Officer, Dick Rafferty, is back from the Orient. He's not back on the job yet, but we are anticipating his early return.

Donald C. Knowlton
Associate Ranger

CDF - CYA CONFERENCE

On April 1st Rangers and staff members of District IV met with Mr. VanNoy and his staff at the Coarsegold CYA Camp. Project Supervisor Stokes was our host. The entire subject of proper coordination of the activities of the two agencies was thoroughly discussed and we feel some very amiable solutions were arrived at which will contribute to the successful operation of the CYA program, which, after all, is the responsibility of both agencies.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

MOUNTAIN HOME HISTORY
Chapter I

Mt. Home Tract, which has been purchased by the State as a State Forest, has some real history behind it. Inasmuch as District IV is to be host to the State Board of Forestry, the State Forester and others on June 14th and 15th, we think it timely that some of its history be made available. We are indebted to Harold G. Schutt of Lindsay, California, for the following historical data.

There are a few people living who worked in the mills at Mt. Home and vicinity as long ago as 1884, but for information previous to that most evidence is hearsay. The first mill operating at Mt. Home was commonly known as the Enterprise Mill. It ceased operations in 1900. The second mill was probably one brought across the valley by ox team from Santa Clara County by Charles F. Wilson and set up at "Happy Camp" above Milo on the headwater of Rancheria Creek. This was about 1870. There were several moves and it eventually reached a point near Mt. Home. The owner, Mr. Coburn, built a flume from this latter location down Bear Creek to a point near Rancheria.

The first mill at Mt. Home, however, was built by L. V. Frazier who must have been quite a promoter. He managed to get a road built up Bear Creek, but it was so expensive that he owed many of the workmen back wages. He moved a mill from Pine Ridge, above Toll House grade in Fresno County, and set it up at Mt. Home. Barney Vincent and Charles Doty hauled it in July 1885. This mill ran a short time that fall. Frazier went broke and the mill passed into the hands of Pease, Newport, and Jerrard. Frazier left the country, but later came back and blockaded the road, evidently hoping to collect tolls. Some of those who hadn't been paid for their work tore down the barricade and in the confusion the County took over the road.

The Frazier mill operated only a few years and burned in 1888. This was a fair-sized mill cutting about 40,000 feet a day of redwood, sugar pine, and fir. Oxen were used for skidding the logs to the mill. The trees were undercut ten or 12 feet above the ground and then sawed off. Sometimes several days' work would be put in preparing the ground on which the large redwoods were to fall.

Redwood being brittle, an effort was made to save as much lumber as possible. Few trees exceeded 18 feet in diameter at stumps, most were much smaller. Two circular saws were used, one set above the other and slightly in advance, but still most redwood logs were too big so it was necessary to split the logs before sawing. Sometimes they were quartered, or divided smaller, by splitting with wedges, but often dynamite was used to blast. It was a wasteful process. A tree splitter was used and it was simply a long drag saw that cut a log lengthwise.

In connection with the Frazier Mill, a few words should be said about the Mt. Home Resort. This was land taken up by A. J. Doty, the father of Charles Doty already mentioned. Doty built a store and hotel and operated quite an establishment for a number of years. Mr. Wells of Tulare recalls that there were 200 or 300 people around Mt. Home. In 1887 there were 700 people camped in the area. Three babies were born there that summer. It was a great vacation spot.

(To be continued)

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

SMOOTH SAILING IN DISTRICT VI

Notwithstanding the opening of fire season, the inaugration of the five-day week, the new reports of performances, the completion of the Job Description Forms, the 101 meetings on the agenda including the Board of Forestry meeting in Riverside, the Rangers' meeting in Sacramento, the meeting with the Ventura County Fire Department, and our own District VI Rangers' meeting at which Dorothy Lewis and Mrs. Thomas were present, the establishing of a big fire prevention campaign, the insect control projects, the reemployment from lay-off lists, and the filling of positions made available through the five-day week, things are running smoothly in District VI.

On April 20 the Riverside Daily Press carried the following timely poem:

"Only a Cigarette"

Only a motorist driving alone;
Only a cigarette carelessly thrown,
Only a tiny spark reaching its goal;
Only a brush fire out of control.
Yet lives which were precious we
know have been lost;
Fine homes are destroyed, at a
terrible cost;
Great forests we cherished, that
once were our pride,
Beneath the flames' onslaught
have crumbled and died,
With blackened stumps only,
where once trees had grown,
Because of a cigarette carelessly
thrown!

Oh, let's teach our children the
danger that lies
In playing with matches; let's
open their eyes
To the great fire hazard that
constantly strays
From the tiniest spark to the
mightiest blaze;
That more easily quenched is a
fire that's new,
Than one which may take several
days to subdue.
In fact, let us prove, when it
comes to the test,
The ounce of prevention is always
the best.
So they'll not reap the harvest
which others have sown,
Because of a cigarette carelessly
thrown!

Georgina King

District VI Headquarters welcomes into its fold Louise Fitzgerald who is replacing Aideen Mahlman, our former personnel clerk. "Fitz" hails from Oregon where she was secretary to a captain of the Oregon State Police.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

By way of promotion, Assistant Ranger J.C. "Jack" Hansen will report to State Ranger Pennington, District IV on April 16 for duty as Associate Ranger. Jack has served with the Division of Forestry in San Bernardino County, District VI, for the past ten years, working up through the various fire suppression grades to Assistant Ranger. Jack will be going to District IV with a wide field of fire control and administration experience which will no doubt be of great value in carrying out his new assignment. During the recent international disturbance, Jack served with the firefighting forces of the U.S. Navy at various naval stations. Since returning to the Division, Jack has been assigned to the Yucaipa Assistant Ranger's district in the east portion of San Bernardino County, and to fill the vacancy left by his promotion, the County will be welcoming back an old friend, Assistant Ranger C. A. Balsom, better known as "Art" to the Division and the public. After several years experience with the U.S. Forest Service, Art, like many others, came to the Division in San Bernardino County and made rapid advancement to the grade of Assistant Ranger, at which time he was transferred to Riverside County.

On the evening of March 12, 1948, Associate Ranger T. G. Bryan had to retreat from his peaceful residence due to an invasion by the ladies of the Division, who honored Mrs. Bryan with a layette shower. The expected arrival received many lovely gifts. Parlor games, county gossip and refreshments were enjoyed by all. It is understood Tom was quite successful in the penny ante game nearby, so all in all the Bryan family came out on the good end of the evening. It is quite possible that

Tom's friends and co-workers in the North will enjoy a fire season cigar.

Motorized Equipment Picture in San Bernardino County: San Bernardino County has improved in the past few weeks with three Ford "6" administrative pickups, and a new Diesel transport for bulldozer units. Also, the Dodge Power Wagon, crew truck, has a bright red face ready for service. As throughout the Division, the new units will vastly improve fire control operation and facilities during the coming critical season.

Effective as of 0800, 15 April 48 personnel in San Bernardino County and it is understood throughout District VI, will answer roll call with dress greens, stiff brim Forestry type Stetsons and sun tan work uniforms. Perhaps the following cartoon depicting the new uniform will enlighten readers far more than written words as to Division personnel appearance in the South!

EDITOR'S NOTE: The cartoon, courtesy of Don Domke, Dispatcher, was a good one but, unfortunately, your editor does not have facilities for reproduction of sketches, cartoons, or photographs in the News Letter. Perhaps, this will come at a later date.

Charles Ulrey
Assistant Ranger

San Diego County

Julian Insect Zone (March 15 to Close)

By the time this article goes to press, the first round in the Julian Insect Zone's "Battle of the Bugs" shall have been completed. Although it is hoped that the final decision will be rendered in favor of the CDF, it will not be possible to evaluate the full worth of our work until June or July when any new "fades" shall have had time to appear. The current year's work on this project is scheduled to end April 15 with the onset of fire season, but it is possible, should new fades occur in the previously worked over areas, that some work will continue during the summer with fire crews.

Work during this final month of the project has progressed smoothly with the majority of the work being carried on in the summer homesite areas of Julian Pines and Kentwood and the North Peak area of Lake Cuyamaca. The weather conditions, although becoming increasingly drier, have remained such that very few trees have been sprayed and all slash and infested parts of the trees have been burned. The concentration of Engraver beetles found in the trees has decreased considerably in this last month and one of our big questions is: Where have they gone? We hope it isn't into the remaining uninfested trees in the area. The concentration of Western Pine Beetles found has remained about the same but the broods are fast maturing with the increasing temperatures.

Project personnel have all been hacking and coughing with bad colds incurred from the cold, wet, and windy weather of the past month, but the only casualty has been D. Shepard who has been out since April 1 and at last report had lapsed into measles.

Equipment Operator Tomko was fortunate enough to get a two week vacation the latter part of March so his position was ably filled by Larry Benton for this period.

Although the final accurate figures for the project are as yet not compiled, it is evident that there has been quite a job of work accomplished by the crews here this winter in a County that is generally conceived as having little else than chaparral and desert. By April 15 the project shall have accomplished the following, in round figures: 3200 acres treated with 2300 poles and trees felled for treatment, 750 man days effort expended in the actual treating operations with an overall expenditure of 1010 man days by all persons concerned with the project. This does not include the 140 man days spent in various preparations for the project and in the initial training of the treating and supervisory personnel. As it has been impossible to completely cover the area this year, another project is most likely in the future for the coming winter. As we bring this year's project to a close however, we feel that a pretty good job of forestry has been done by men whose work up until this winter has been almost entirely fire suppression.

Cuyamaca Insect Zone

On March 11 the greatly appreciated help from the Northern Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5 arrived to assist us on the Cuyamaca Project. Assistant Ranger W. Jamieson, Forest Technicians T. F. Arvola and H. E. Kaufner, Assistant Rangers, J. E. Howell, M. A. Swain, and T. J. Henson, Assistant Technician J. Dowdakin, Foremen E. Martin, Emery Escola, G. Hedges, J. Caporusso, and E. H. Brown, and Drivers H. Mayfield, G. Bradley, J. Bounds, P. Olson, D. Schary, J. Dellenbaugh, D. Schultz, V. Bruni, G. Baughman, and F. Anderson were out-of-district men who came down. Along with ten men from San Diego County, this gave us quite a striking force.

It is rumored that several bathing suits and bottles of sun tan oil were included in the baggage of our northern visitors. However, after a few days they discovered that turnouts and rubber boots were more the style for our Southern California winters. I am sure they will bring back reports of both snow and timber in Southern California.

Sickness and injuries put no small dent in our manpower. Herb Kaufner was forced to leave after only a few days due to a relapse from a service incurred sickness as was D. Schultz somewhat later. D. Schary and H. Reed both received severe cuts on their feet, which necessitated their lay-up for the duration of the project and J. Bounds and H. Mayfield had to leave because of personal reasons.

Before I go any further I would like to thank all the out-of-district men for their fine work and grand spirit they showed in putting up with the inconveniences of the camp in its starting days. Our cook, Earl Adams, had quite a time with too small a stove and too many men, but moving the kitchen to the garage and installing a larger stove did the trick. He turned out some memorable meals thereafter.

Most of the Northern men returned to their home districts on March 25 with 5 TAU drivers staying on until the completion of the project.

John H. Hastings
Assistant Ranger

Present records indicate that by the end of the project some 600trees and some 15,000 acres will have been treated.

For the past three weeks spray has been used almost exclusively in the treatment of the boles of the trees and only the limbs have been burned. The weather makes even the burning of the limbs a hazardous process in these closing days.

A series of warm days has caused the Ips in the few remaining trees on the sunny slopes to fly. Therefore, only trees infected with Western Pine Beetles are now being cut on the sunny slopes.

At the present it appears as though money and bug trees will both run out on April 15, the scheduled closing of the project and the start of fire season. However, the work of spraying the trap trees in June or July will be carried on by the Fire Crews in the area.

Although the project was started late in the year, the area designated for control has been covered by the crews and all infested trees cut and treated. Except for the trap trees, all that is left for us to do is to wait patiently 'till June or July to measure the success or failure of the project by the number of new fades that appear. Here's hoping for unfaded pine slopes!

Mike Schori
Assistant Ranger

Form 651 - JOB DESCRIPTION CARD

The woes of a Forestry Clerk are many
So our opinion of this form isn't worth a penny
We haven't the brains we need, I guess
Because these questions can't be answered "no" or "yes"

We have those who work eight hours a day,
And those who 24 hours right here must stay.
Now who can say how to show the hours
A lookout must stay near the phone in his tower.
He isn't working but there he must be
So in case of a fire, the smoke he can see.

The Foremen, Drivers, and Cooks are the same;
They too, at their station must remain,
We don't know how to show this time
Anymore than we can make this thing rhyme.

But griping is healthy, normal, and fun
So here's our latest - now we must run.

At the time of our last report about the insect projects in San Diego County, we were proud that only one injury had occurred - that of the pine cone falling on Foreman Lefty Green's head. However, such a record cannot be claimed this month. It seems that the axes used to fell the pines have a curious magnetic draw towards toes, and two of the "loggers" have been powerless to prevent an injury. One factor which helps eliminate some of the pain of these injuries is the extreme cold which is said to make the feet so numb they could be severed without realizing it. Driver Hector Reed and Driver Glenn Schary were the unfortunates who couldn't tell their feet from a tree. Inasmuch as both of these men were under the care of La Mesa doctors, they stayed here at Headquarters. Local residents must be wondering what keeps happening to the Forestry boys — they're all on crutches lately. Confidentially, we're wondering too.

Leona Minga

Riverside County

The following letter of gratitude was received from the Thermal Chamber of Commerce:

"On behalf of the residents and business men of Therman, we wish to take this opportunity of extending to you our most sincere thanks and appreciation for the excellent work you did in assisting to control the fire which threatened the entire town on the evening of February 26. The manner in which you applied the manpower and equipment at your command shows a skill resulting from extensive study and training of a progressive and intelligent nature. We consider ourselves very fortunate indeed, that you were able and willing to assist us at this most critical time.

"We shall be ready and willing to cooperate with you in every way possible for our mutual benefit in the future.

Gratefully yours,

THERMAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
/s/ RAY O. DURNING, President
/s/ ARTHUR P. LALONDE, Secretary"

Thermal is in the Coachella Valley where fire protection was established less than 2 years ago. The distances involved in getting additional equipment into the valley are great; however, through our County Mutual Aid Plan we did have seven fire trucks operating on this fire, including 2 from the City of Indio and units rolled in from Beaumont, San Jacinto, and Perris.

Truman Holland
State Forest Ranger

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### STATE FORESTERS OPPOSE MOVES TO UP FEDERAL AID

The Association of State Foresters will make a strongly organized effort to maintain Section 2, Clarke-McNary appropriation at the present maximum authorization of $9,000,000.

Oregon State Forester N.S. Rogers said the Association's executive committee at its recent Washington, D.C. meeting had vetoed a drive for any additional funds. The committee felt it was entirely out of line at the present time to make any effort to secure additional federal funds for any purpose at a time when Congress is attempting to reduce rather than increase federal budgets, Rogers said. A four-point program for a long-term forestry plan covering cooperation with the various states was presented at the meeting by the U.S. Forest Service. The plan included:

1. Increase Clarke-McNary authorization to 50 percent of estimated cost plus 15 percent.
2. Place farm forestry under Section 5, Clarke McNary Act.
3. Increase Section 4 Clarke-McNary authorization to $1,000,000 and make planting stock available to all forest landowners.
4. Enact federal forest management bill which would extend financial aid to state and private owners under similar provisions as the Clarke-McNary Act.

The proposed increase of the Clarke-McNary authorization would up the present figure to $18,000,000, nearly double the present amount. The 15 percent was included to partially meet the increased cost of protection. Because the increase would ultimately result in a request for additional congressional appropriations, the State Foresters Association executive committee turned it down, for the present. The proposal to place all farm forestry under the extension service of the land grant colleges was turned down by the committee. Although the committee did not approve an increase in the authorization for the distribution of forest planting stock, it did favor the provision that would permit distribution to all forest landowners.

Under terms of the present act, tree distribution is limited to farmers for the production of windbreaks, shelterbelts, and woodlands. The federal forest management proposal also was disapproved because its enactment would contemplate federal appropriations. The State Foresters will hold their annual meeting September 28, 29, and 30 at Roscommon, Michigan. Stanley Fontana, Deputy Director of Conservation, will be the host. The Michigan meeting will consist of two and one-half days of business sessions and one day of field trips.

Forestry Digest
April, 1948

WASHINGTON STATE TELLS KEEP GREEN PROGRAM STORY

Washington, the state that started the KEEP GREEN movement, has recently issued an attractive 12-page booklet outlining the history of the program and its operation. Statistics tell the story in Washington State, says the booklet. It points out that forest fire losses prior to establishment of the KWG movement averaged 158,493 acres annually. Since KWG was established eight years ago forest fire losses have been held to 31,736 acres a year.

Forestry Digest, April, 1948

CALIFORNIA PROTECTIVE GROUP ELECTS OFFICERS

J. C. Rassenfoss, Pickering Lumber Company recently was named president of the California Forest Protective Association. Other officers included: Gordon Manary, Pacific Lumber Corp., first vice president; Waller H. Reed, Collins-Almanor Forest, second vice president; Harry W. Cole, Hill-Davis Co. Ltd., third vice president; and W. R. Schofield, secretary and treasurer.

Forestry Digest, April, 1948

LUMBER IS VITAL ITEM IN EUROPEAN AID PLAN

America's forest industries will be called upon to supply nearly three billion board feet of lumber during the next 4½ years under terms of the proposed European Recovery program. Lumber is one of the three most important raw materials required under the Marshall Plan. Based on July 1, 1947 prices, the value of the wood products asked for in the European aid plan approximates $377,000,000. The aid plan also calls for the United States to supply sawmill and woodworking machinery and equipment worth $63,000,000. Because of current domestic shortages of millwork, siding, hardwood flooring and plywood, most of the lumber exports under the European recovery program would be in the form of rouch sawed lumber.

Forestry Digest, April, 1948

FAO CALLS LATIN AMERICAN TIMBER CONFERENCE

The International Forestry and Forest Products Conference for Latin America will open April 19 at Teresopolis, near Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference is the second in a series planned by the Food and Agriculture Organization to develop constructive exploitation of the world's timber stands. The first conference, held at Marianske Lazne, Czechoslovakia, in 1947 dealt with the emergency and long-term European timber situation.

U.S. LUMBER PRODUCTION

Total production of lumber in 1947 was 36.6 billion board feet, according to the National Lumber Manufacturers Association. It was an increase of 5 percent over 1946

Forestry News, April, 1948




# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

## STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 5 M. H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor May, 1948



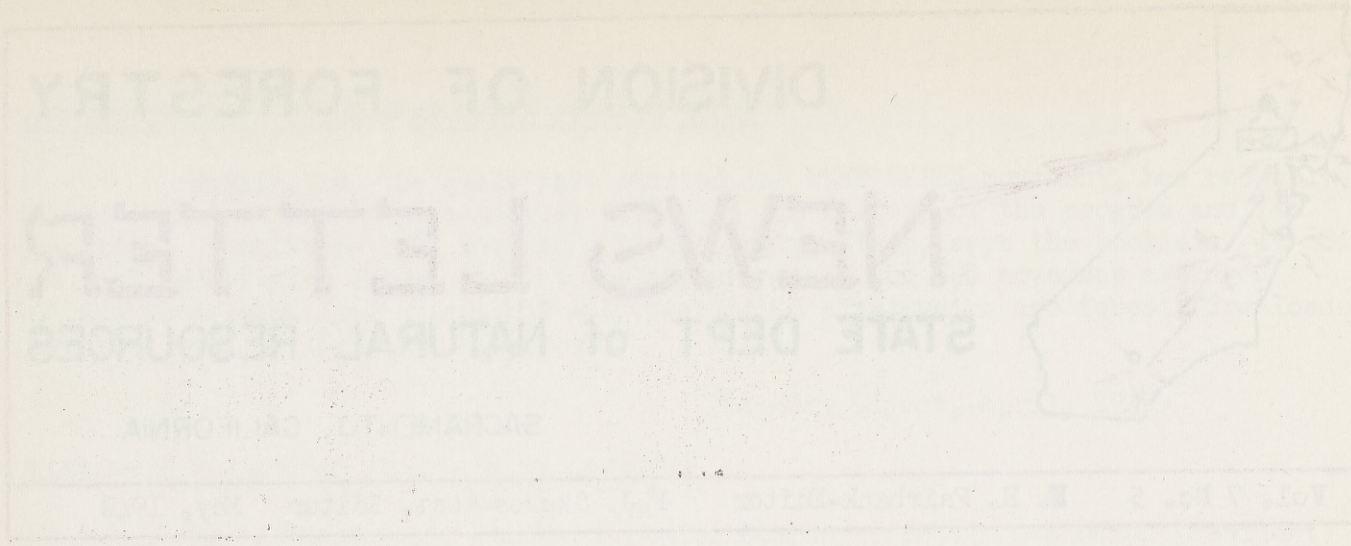
NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY


## NELSON REPORTS MAY HIGHLIGHTS

As in April, May weather continued to favor forest fire hazard conditions in all parts of California with the exception of that area below the Tehachapi Mountains. Notwithstanding better than average rainfall in most parts of the State, the Division of Forestry field forces took action on several watershed fires during the month. In Riverside County a fire was controlled at 400 acres on May 15 and fire suppression forces battled a fire from May 18 to 20 in the same County that burned a total of 2200 acres. Small fires reported during the month were a 19 acre timber fire in Shasta County on May 26, a 12 acre timber and brush fire in Mariposa County on May 15, a 44 acre fire in Fresno County on May 28, and 24 acres of brush land were burned over in Madera County on May 27.

In light of favorable weather conditions the Division activated during the month but 122 fire suppression crew stations of the total number of 218. Only 28 lookout stations were manned of the 72 administered by this Division. Fire suppression personnel employed during the month have undergone rigid training courses at either ranger or district levels and have been utilized effectively for the necessary work of camp activation and fire prevention hazard reduction work, in addition to the maintenance and construction jobs so vital to efficient operation of this Division.

The whole-hearted support of the Governor's Office was most appreciated this month as Governor Warren officially opened on May 27 the 1948 fire prevention campaign for this State. Fire prevention educational materials were dispatched to more than ninety cooperating agencies in the State including private concerns, civic and community groups, women's organizations, and governmental agencies. More active interest is being shown in this citizen's job of fire prevention than has heretofore been experienced. In addition to posters, bookmarks, blotters, envelope stamps, and a host of other materials, special distribution is contemplated of more than two million leaflets at field points of contact. Through the border quarantine stations a fire prevention leaflet will be handed to every incoming car and truck from June through September. Sports stores selling hunting and fishing licenses have been asked to distribute leaflets to sport enthusiasts. The Department of Motor Vehicles will distribute leaflets to those people renewing or applying for driving licenses. Forest agencies, including the National Park Service, State Division of Beaches and Parks, and State and Federal Forest Service will distribute leaflets to recreationists and sportsmen in the field. It is anticipated that coverage of educational materials will be more complete this year than in any previous year through the active support of the 90 large concerns and organizations that are active in the campaign.



Body
the
dela
sixt
that
Berk
effo

Fore
alre

Lake
side
Fore
May
and
Exte
advi
inte
mont
prob
owne

JUNE

and
incl
cent
land
cons
logg
afte
Fore

GOVE

the
and
offi
with
the
of t

FORE

Coun
meth
thre
leve

It is reported that twenty-five new fire trucks being constructed at the Yankee Body Work Plant in Los Angeles are nearing completion. It is anticipated that all of the trucks will be ready for delivery to the Division by June 30 if pumps are not unduly delayed from the manufacturing plant in Berkeley. The same condition prevails on the sixty-one crew trucks that are under construction. Pump delivery will be the only thing that delays the final delivery date to the Division. The machinist strike was settled in Berkeley on May 18 and the manufacturer of the pumps assures the Division that great effort will be placed on meeting deadlines.

Oral examinations were completed this month for the position of Forest Fire Foreman. A fine group of young men have professed interest in the job, many of them already being with the Division in jobs of lower capacity.

Two appraisals have been completed this month on the Boggs Mountain timber in Lake County belonging to the Calso Company in order that the forest tract may be considered for purchase by the State Board of Forestry at their June 14 and 15 meeting. Forest technicians and members of the Engineering Section gathered in Sacramento on May 10 and 11 for a meeting to discuss forest practices, farm forestry, engineering, and administrative matters. Guests included members of the U.S. Forest Service and Extension Forester's Office for mutual discussions on forest practices and forest advisory programs. The redwood logging conference, an annual affair that has been interrupted for the past two years because of labor strike in the area, was held this month in Eureka. Members of the Division attended the conference where forest practice problems were discussed before more than 300 men representatives of private forest land owners and operators and governmental agencies.

JUNE BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING HELD AT MT. HOME STATE FOREST

The California Board of Forestry met on the Mt. Home State Forest on June 14 and 15 for their regular monthly meeting. Topics under consideration by the Board included a discussion and report on the Mendocino Woodlands Recreational Area, a recent resolution adopted by the Western Pine Association, a report on proposed school land exchange, suggestions on operation and management plans for the Mt. Home Tract, consideration of alternate plans of Forest Practice Rules, report on the redwood logging conference, and a report on the range improvement program. The Board spent the afternoon of June 14 in a survey of the Mt. Home Tract conducted by Deputy State Forester Metcalf and Forest Manager McCanlies.

GOVERNOR WARREN OFFICIALLY OPENS 1948 FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN.

With the release of a photograph and a news story to all California newspapers, the 1948 fire prevention campaign, sponsored by the California Fire Prevention Committee and spearheaded by California Division of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service, was officially opened by Governor Earl Warren on May 27. The campaign was discussed briefly with Governor Warren in his office while preparing a group picture that was released with the news story to California papers. Governor Warren indicated his whole-hearted approval of the work and offered his assistance.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

FOREST PRACTICE INSPECTORS' MEETING

On May 13 through 15 the Forest Practice Inspectors from each District III County met at a round-table conference in Sacramento, to go over sundry field problems, methods, and general Forest Practice concerns. The meeting extended through a full three-day program, and the whole subject of Forest Practices on the District administrative level was very fully discussed.

The entire group reported that they got a great deal of good out of the talks and the field men requested that a similar session be held in the Fall to again review matters of administrative interest in this subject.

Herman P. Meyer
Forest Technician

TUOLUMNE COUNTY NEWS

Tuolumne County wishes to welcome into its folds (geologic, that is) its new Associate Ranger, Bert Harris. Bert's illustrious career includes foreign service in District VI and, more recently, dealing with the brush burners of Calaveras County. We are indeed sad to report, however, that the prolific progeny program of the administrative personnel of Tuolumne County abruptly terminated with the arrival of B.H. Absolutely no fluttering of stork's wings can be heard whatsoever!

Man's ingenuity in the face of adversity has been demonstrated again in Tuolumne County. Mr. W. F. Casteel, timber operator in the pure pine stands of the County, wished to market a superior quality of lumber. However, a daily output of 5 M.F.B.M. rather limits his capital outlay on such items as 20 M.F.B.M. capacity kilns.

Not to be outdone by Pickering, which produced 75,000 M.F.B.M. in 1947, Casteel built a "kiln" which drys, to an unknown moisture content, a 2 M.F.B.M. stack in two weeks. Heat is produced by burning scrap wood in a Dutch Oven affair. The heat is carried through 10" pipes via a 3 H.P. blower to the bottom of the end and side-stacked lumber. Heat rising through the boards carries off the moisture.

The system is only slightly more complicated than described and actual results are not presently known by us or the operator. But the system is one that might possibly be tried by other small mills in the State not having access to a concentration remanufacturing plant. Photos of the "kiln" are available upon request from the Tuolumne County Office.

We notice that an assistant editor has been added to the staff of the News Letter. Does this mean we field men are to submit even larger volumes of words of wisdom for future issues of the letter? Or are we to cut down?After all, we don't want to overwork anyone!

All proud sons of U.C. will be glad to know that "Mother" Reid Venable recently passed through this county and wished to extend greetings to all her boys via the News Letter. Her only regret is that her office in the new Timber-r-r-r ! Building on campus will hardly be large enough to accommodate the alumni traffic she hopes will pass through its portals in the years to come.

Clinton B. Phillips
Assistant State Forest Ranger

MT. ZION SITE FOR DISTRICT TRAINING SCHOOL

The District III training school went into operation at the Mt. Zion State Forest May 10th and approximately 40 men per week are attending the basic fire fighter's course. Jerry Reinecker, Assistant Ranger from ElDorado County is in charge of the school. His able assistants are Jack Collumber, F.E.O. from Placer County and Earl Barron, Assistant Fire Chief from District III Headquarters.

Amador County weather must be hard on these instructors as Jerry took sick with the mumps a few days before the school opened. District III Headquarters then sent

out our able Swede Investigator, Raleigh Taylor, who did a swell job the first week but lo and behold the mump bug got him too. At the present time Robert Carey is pinch hitting for Jerry and Raleigh with some fine help from Collumber and "fire-eater" Barron.

During the construction of the tent camp which consists of five bunking tents, one wooden shower building, and one 49 x 16 messhall and cook tent, that old man Jupe Pluvius with the aid of a 35 MPH wind and two inches of snow gave us a bad time, but all the gang stuck it out and did a fine job.

During the first week of the school we had a couple of visitors, Ray Greve and Fred Herbert and during the second week our State Forester dropped in and gave a fine talk which everyone appreciated. We also want to thank our Deputy and Assistant Deputy for their talks on the opening days of each class week. I think it would be appropriate at this time to thank them for their foresightedness in getting a program of this kind started which I am sure will pay good dividends during the coming fire season and also in the future.

Verne Stahl formerly a foreman in Riverside County was recently promoted to Assistant Ranger and assigned to Amador County Headquarters at Sutter Hill.

Walter H. Mueller
State Forest Ranger

GOLD SHOW EXHIBIT BY PLACER COUNTY

The annual Gold Show was held in Auburn on May 14, 15, and 16 and was more than an annual affair since it was commemorating the 100th year of the discovery of gold. The Placer County unit of the Division of Forestry grasped the chance to present a fire prevention message to the many people that were anticipated to be in attendance by arranging for a program of motion pictures and an outdoor display of fire fighting equipment.

A building was secured at the entrance of the fair grounds where virtually all foot and automobile traffic had to pass in order to get into the fair grounds. Not satisfied with the display of large signs indicating free motion pictures, Placer County personnel secured a public address system from the U.S. Army Recruiting Service and augmented the visual invitation to the program by a continuous "barking" program that attracted many exhibit visitors to the Division's program. The two films "Then It Happened" and "Frying Pan And The Fire" were shown and were viewed at thirty-eight shows by more than 1600 people. The outdoor exhibit consisted of a fire truck, a board upon which were mounted the common fire fighting tools, posters, and signs all arranged against a background of forest trees.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

FIRE PREVENTION FLOAT CONSTRUCTED IN MADERA COUNTY

Madera County's Fire Prevention program received a substantial boast when a CDF float was submitted to participate in parades at the Chowchilla Homecoming and the Los Banos May Day Celebrations. Approximately 14,000 viewed the float in Chowchilla on April 24th and additional 25,000 at Los Banos on May 2nd.

The float was built against a painted canvas back-drop of the High Sierras with plastered replicas of Millerton Lake and Friant Dam in the foreground. The float was constructed on our large tilt bed trailer and furnished ample facilities for showing a

miniature forest, boy scout camping scene, a 4 x 8 "Smokey" poster and small fire prevention signs, which were placed at numerous points.

Much credit for the success is due Walter Grance, Forest Firetruck Driver at Chowchilla, who supervised the construction and put in many, many off-duty hours. C.A. Nichols and T. A. Peabody, FEOs at Fresno and Madera, respectfully, donated their personal time to operate the Federal Transport Tractor to pull the float in the parade.

The judges in each of the parades were instructed not to consider the float for the various prizes. The idea, of course, was that the float was built during regular work hours of Forestry employees, while other floats were built during spare time, etc. However, such was not the case--the CDF float was constructed almost entirely during off-duty hours.

Numerous invitations have been received from various towns and communities to participate in celebrations throughout the State.

Joe Griggs,
Assistant Ranger

RAIN, TRAINING SCHOOL, BUDGETS NEWS IN KINGS COUNTY

The past month has been largely taken up with meetings and training schools.

Enough rain, plus ample supply of runoff water from the mountains has helped the agricultural crops in this area, in fact, an average crop of grass is maturing on the west side in the higher areas.

The picture "Then It Happened" was shown here some time ago - we are still receiving a lot of comment from the public.

This is the time of year "County Budgets" are prepared and discussed. "All Supervisors Have That New Look".

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

FINAL DISTRICT IV TRAINING SCHOOL HELD AT WOODLAKE

District IV held its final training school at Woodlake Fire Suppression Station on May 10th to 13th, inclusive. This school was a practical school designed to give employees in this district actual practice and training in fire control methods and techniques.

After a short conference at Woodlake Station, all men in attendance participated in an actual control burn, employing two types of back fire torches, both a water and a hand line and then making a complete fire report on their activities. A comparison of the values of the different methods used brought out many points performed incorrectly before.

On the morning of the second day a mythical fire started in the vicinity of Three Rivers. Crews were dispatched to the scene but dispite their efforts, the fire went raging on. More men were sent, two fire camps were set up with all the supervisory personnel that goes with each, even a large crew from the Coarsegold CYA were dispatched, and the strategy involved in the control of a major campaign fire was under way.

Everything went along pretty smoothly until one of the crews which was cutting trail toward the head of the fire lost the trail of lime marking the boundary of the fire! (Quite a problem for the judges, too). As a result, we finally ended up by not getting the fire completely tied in, but that all went for good training. (Next time, Bob Matheson, Assistant Ranger in Tulare County, will make sure he has enough lime to make a line completely around the fire!)

Many mistakes were made during this problem, but this only afforded a better opportunity to amplify mistakes commonly made in control of fires, fire camp set ups, dispatching procedure, etc. At least, Norman Nicholson, Associate Ranger in Fresno County, will make a better camp boss next time--or else! Those steaks were a little too rare!

The training school was terminated on the third day with another conference and general critique of the fire problem and it was definitely decided that we could all do a better job at fire control now that we have had some practice and plenty of constructive criticism regarding our particular jobs.

Donald Knowlton
Associate Ranger

NOTE:

Reference is made to the P.U. News Item and Rafferty's reticent statement in the March issue of the News Letter. Page 99, Column 5, Line 9, please insert to wit: "Persons existing on a diet of brain food, namely; 'Monterey fish heads', have at times the most unusual reactions."

Signed: P.U. 2

MT. HOME TRACT HISTORY - CHAPTER II

About 1899 John J. Doyle took up the summer Home Tract close by and developed his resort. He even sub-divided and sold lots, but later purchased them in order to sell the property as a whole. This is the land that a few years ago was purchased by the Kerckhoff's and given to Tulare County as Balch Park. This same Doyle developed Doyle's Springs on the river just below the State Mt. Home Tract.

The largest mill in this area was the Enterprise erected in 1897. It operated only a short time because the company had only 80 acres of timber. This mill was located about a mile above the spot known as Mt. Home. The saw dust pile is still there just before one reaches Shake Camp (Shake Camp is the temporary location of a pack station operated by Mr. Negus). As has already been said, when this mill closed down it was moved to Dillonwood.

Lumber from all except the Coburn Mill was hauled down the steep mountain grades by wagon and team. Six to twelve horses were used and anyone who has ever been over the old Bear Creek Road (not the present Bear Creek Road) must have admiration for the ability of the teamster to bring big loads of lumber down this crooked, steep hill. Redwood was worth about $10 per thousand at the mill, perhaps twice as much at Porterville. A word probably should be said about other utilization of redwood for shingles, shakes and posts.

There are a number of side lights in this area that are of special interest. The so-called "Centennial" stump from which a cross section was sent to the Chicago Exposition was cut from this area. At Balch Park (surrounded by Mt. Home Tract) we find a redwood tree which was cut but which didn't fall, and at the Gill Tract surrounded by

Mt. Home Tract we find the Hercules Tree which has a room cut out in the trunk with the tree apparently still in good condition.

(To be continued).

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

DIVISION SPONSORS "SHOW ME" TRIP FOR FRESNO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of students from the Fresno State College were taken on a "show me" trip under the sponsorship of Forest Technician Schlobohm. This trip included one of the most efficient saw mills in the area, and also one of the small "gyppo" mills from which the students were able to gain an on-th-ground picture of good and bad mill practices. The efforts of the Division of Forestry in range research was explained at the Ensign Control Burn area of Madera County.

On the return trip the group was taken to the Red Top Lookout where lookout operation was explained to them by Curly Reed, the lookout in charge of the station.

The Faculty of Fresno State College express their appreciation for this guided trip and have now planned to make it a part of the curriculum of the conservation course given by the College.

D. F. Schlobohm
Forest Technician

FOUR NEW ASSISTANT RANGERS FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Monterey County has four new Assistant Rangers and one new Associate Ranger. Chas. W. (Bill) Wilcher, who has been the Assistant Ranger in the King City District has been appointed Associate Ranger. Walter Banchero came from Butte County, where he was Assistant Ranger. He is now holding that same position in charge of the King City District. Oscar Hazelrigg, who came from San Luis Obispo, where he was a foreman, is now Assistant Ranger in charge of the Bradley District. Donal Russell and Kenneth Harp hail from San Diego County. They were both foremen in La Mesa, California. Russell will be the Assistant Ranger in the Bonzoles District and Harp will be stationed in King City.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger

NEW LOOKOUT DEDICATED

This month a new lookout station in District V was completed. It is located in the northwestern portion of Monterey County, overlooking the Carmel Valley, vast areas of range, timber land and watersheds; also the beautiful Monterey Peninsula with fine stands of Monterey pine. This lookout is a-top Pinyon Peak and is to be named and dedicated as Sid Ormsbee Lookout in memory of Sidney Chase Ormsbee who was killed in action over the Messina Straits in Sicily on August 16, 1943. He grew up on the Monterey Peninsula, his home being at Capitola, California, where his parents still reside.

He attended high school at Santa Cruz and became active in athletics, expecially in basketball and football. During the summer vacations he became a fire suppression crew foreman in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. After graduating from high school in 1936 he enrolled at San Jose State College where he studied Forestry and Engineering and presided over the Forestry Club. Sid became an Assistant Ranger in 1938, assigned

to Fresno County. He remained there until he was transferred to Felton, Santa Cruz County.

On September 20, 1941, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, and was called to duty on December 16, 1941. His training was received at Oklahoma City, Houston, Texas and Midland, Texas as a navigator and bombardier. After graduating at Midland, Texas he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on September 3, 1942. Following this, he was sent to Columbia, South Carolina for combat training. Owing to the submarine menace at that time along the Atlantic Coast, Sid was immediately placed on submarine patrol there and in the Carribean Sea, where he served until February 1, 1943. In February they flew their bombers to Africa by way of Brazil and landed in Tunisia on February 14, 1943. Sidney went through the Tunisian Campaign, in the desert and out to Cape Bone, then to Pantelleria, Salerno, and into Italy. Soon thereafter he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant, and was cited for bravery on a flight over Naples on July 16.

On August 16, 1943, at the Battle of Messina, the day before Messina was surrendered to Montgomery, his plane was shot down by enemy anti-aircraft fire off Cape Faro, about two miles out at sea. They had completed their mission and were nearly out in the clear. Sid bailed out of the plane, but was machine-gunned on his way down or in the sea. He was buried in the Military Cemetary near Coronia, Sicily.

He was awarded, posthumously, the Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart, the Group Medal, also the Distinguished Unit Badge which was awarded to the 340th Group. His parents received these medals after his death.

An interesting coincidence is that the site, road and telephone line to the Sid Ormsbee Lookout were surveyed by George Rau, Assistant Forestry Engineer, assigned to the Sacramento office, and John Otter, Junior Forestry Engineer, assigned to District V, and the road and telephone line were constructed under the supervision of Charles W. (Bill) Wilcher, Associate State Ranger, Monterey County, all of whom were school mates of Sid Ormsbee at San Jose State College.

Charles W. (Bill) Wilcher
Associate State Ranger

PROFESSOR TO BE STATIONED ON NEW LOOKOUT

Mr. Ferdinand W. Haasis of Carmel has been assigned to the new Sid Ormsbee Lookout in Monterey County for the fire season.

Mr. Haasis has had considerable training and experience in forestry, having received his B. Sc. at Rutgers, New Jersey in 1911, where he majored in General Agriculture. Then he attended Yale University, receiving his M. F. degree in General Forestry in 1913. Later he attended the Johns-Hopkins University and received his Ph.D. in 1928 on plant physiology. Part of the time he also taught plant physiology at Johns-Hopkins.

From there he went to Idaho and taught various forestry subjects for about two years at the University of Idaho. Mr. Haasis has done considerable research and survey work in forestry in various parts of the United States, and during World War II he did chemical analysis and had supervision of the rubber laboratory for the Guayule Research Project in Salinas.

He has been a resident of California since the summer of 1930, living in Carmel most of that time, with the exception of about two years when he taught forestry and plant physiology at the Salinas and the Monterey High Schools, and he is at the

present time an instructor at the Carmel High School during the school season.

Together with these many vocations Mr. Haasis enjoys a considerable number of avocations, such as some knowledge of Spanish, German, Portuguese, French, and Latin, and he will no doubt find time on the lookout to enjoy many other interests, such as sketching and photography. He also states that he likes to cook. He will find an opportunity to "experiment" along this line, as it will be necessary for him to cook for himself.

He has also found time to do considerable writing, being author and co-author of some 50 original papers in the fields of silviculture, plant physiology, plant ecology, erosion control, phytopathology, microtechnic, photography, besides a few reviews and translations and abstracts for "Botanical Abstracts" and "Biological Abstracts".

He also has memberships in American Association for the Advancement of Science (fellow), Ecological Society of America, Phi Beta Kappa Society, Society of the Sigma Xi, and is listed in several editions of American Men of Science.

As we know, it is not necessary to attend three or four universities in order to locate a fire. However, Monterey County is fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Haasis, and it will no doubt add to the interest of his work at Sid Ormsbee Lookout this summer — it will give him an opportunity to study his forestry and plant life through an entirely different angle — a firefinder instead of a microscope.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

"May Day" brought forth our best efforts in fire prevention activities in San Luis Obispo County for the coming fire season. Included in our fire prevention activities were (1) roadside discing with "Minnie" and (2) motion pictures. Under the able direction of Assistant Ranger L. B. "The Bandit" Lopez with Foreman Leo "The Feather" Barba as operator of the District 5 Minneapolis Moline Tractor and Goble Disc, we were able to disc a total of 108 miles of roadside for a total of 236 man hours. All of this work was done in the Paso Robles, Creston, Camatti, La Panza, Shandon and Adelaide areas. Time will tell the effectiveness of this work, but it is felt that it will greatly reduce the number of roadside fires that would otherwise become more than roadside fires.

With the District V new 16 mm sound projector and equipment and two films from Sacramento, "Life Blood of the Land" and "Snow Harvest", Assistant Rangers F. W. Bradford, R. K. Show and L. B. Lopez were kept busy in the schools throughout the county. Assistant Ranger R. K. "Sir Rodnick" Show had the best report to turn in - only because he had more schools than the others. His showings included approximately 15 schools for a total of about 1400 in attendance. All together, counting schools, service clubs and lodges, the totals will no doubt be in the neighborhood of 40 showings for a total attendance of 2500 persons. Our new Assistant Ranger D. F. "Handsome" Hall, we regret to report, was unable to make use of this medium of fire prevention because his "asbestus" portion of the county is without the finer things of life - mainly electricity. This time is coming though.

WINTER PROJECTS NEARING COMPLETION

Our winter projects are being rushed to completion as we approach fire season. Accomplishments for our winter labors are: a new Fire Control Station at San Simeon

and a new road giving us access to our new radio repeater station. The chain gang - oops, pardon me - I mean the road crew under the supervision of Assistant Ranger F. W. "Happy" Bradford pushed through 3.2 miles of road. At this writing the crews available are slushing around in the cement as they are pouring our new repeater vault. District Carpenter Rock, supervising this operation, is really enjoying this job due to the fact that the weather today is almost perfect. Much different than the weather dished out by Monterey County when they poured their repeater vault in the rain. Due to slow delivery of certain very necessary item, we have been held up on the completion of the San Simeon Fire Control Station, but as the old saying goes - better late than never.

PERSONALITY PARADE

Out of county visitors to San Luis Obispo during the month have included the following: State Forester Nelson, Fire Control Officer Walt Winters, Deputy State Forester C. G. Strickland, Lee Burcham, John Dowdakin, and U.S.F.S. Regional Officer C. R. Tillotson.

New faces in the County for this fire season are James Cantrell transferred from San Diego County as a new foreman and Maurice L. Davis, new to the Division coming from the Los Angeles County Fire Department, as Forest Fire Dispatcher. An old face, but in a new capacity, is Foreman E. H. "Dreamy" Banks, who transferred to us from Monterey County.

The crew at Paso Robles Fire Control Station have none of the usual "kitchen gripes" or at least they should not have, since their cook George Walker passed number 1 on the last cook's examination.

Foreman Charles J. "Crutches" Holcomb, San Luis Obispo Headquarters, is somewhat on the inactive list these days. On Friday night, May 14th, while overhauling a warehouse fire at the Union Oil Company tank farm just outside of San Luis Obispo, Charlie had the unfortunate experience of having a large piece of angle iron fall across his left foot, fracturing all five of his toes.

FLASH!!! DISTRICT V ASSOCIATE RANGERS SENT TO PRISON

Associate Ranger Steve Nash-Boulden along with other Associate Rangers from District V have gone to prison. Yes, the Associate Rangers have gone to prison. But it really isn't as bad as it may sound. It is only a training program carried on at the Soledad Prison Farm in Monterey County prior to the coming fire season. That is a training program for the inmates - not a training program for the Associate Rangers.

Maurice L. Davis
Forest Fire Dispatcher

MORE FIRE FIGHTERS

Fire fighters from the Medium Security Prison at Soledad, California, will be available for use this year. There will be approximately 150 men trained as organized follow-up crews.

Both the State Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service will have access to the use of these men in District V which also boundaries the northern portion of the Los Padres National Forest.

An intensive training program has been established to acquaint the boys of the organization with hazards, use of tools, etc. which is to be conducted under the

supervision of Ranger Willard C. Austin, Monterey County, by the Associate Rangers from each county in District V and representatives from the U.S. Forest Service.

Charles W. (Bill) Wilcher
Associate State Ranger

SAN BENITO COUNTY PERSONNEL CHANGES

Bill Rosario, Forest Fire Fighter Foreman, was transferred to Monterey County and will be stationed in the Carmel District. Bill was stationed at Hollister during the past winter period.

Marion B. "Red" Hall was transferred into San Benito County to replace Nick Olivieri, recently deceased. Red, formerly had charge of the Bradley District, Monterey County, and worked under W. C. Austin.

Joseph Phillis, Forest Fire Truck Driver at the Hollister station was promoted to Forest Fire Dispatcher in the District five office at Monterey. His loss will be greatly felt as he was a very good fireman, having spent twenty-five years as Fire Marshall and Inspector for the Santa Barbara Fire Department.

Marion W. "Bill" Steele was promoted to Associate State Forest Ranger and will work with John P. Wade, helping to relieve congestion brought on by the five day week. Bill was the Assistant Ranger in charge of the Gonzales district in Monterey County and worked under W. C. Austin.

"Thirty for today"

Marion W. Steele
Associate Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI

Mr. Horace Kennedy and his wife visited the District VI office at Riverside a few days ago enroute for a six months' vacation, destination "everywhere". Their car was equipped with a comfortable new trailer which will be their home during their travels. They expect to cruise the States and Canada, visiting their many friends and seeing all the sights of interest. They expect to stop by to say "hello" to some of Horace's many friends in the Division during their travels.

We all wish the Kennedys happy days indeed and pleasant travels throughout their well-deserved vacation. Horace is hale and hearty and able to enjoy fully his well earned leisure after so many years of faithful and efficient service in law enforcement.

J. K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

Word from the underground has just been received that the census man in San Bernardino has added one more name to his roster, that of Margaret Kathleen Bryan. She is the daughter of Associate Ranger and Mrs. Tom Bryan.

Senior Account Clerk Melvin Worrel is finding it difficult to concentrate on "Budget and Accounts". He is taking the fatal step on June 20, and District VI Headquarters congratulate Mel and wish for him and his new bride much happiness. It is the consensus here-abouts that the adage "In Spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts

of love" really holds water as Betty Way, Clerk in District VI Headquarters is sporting a diamond ring. No wedding date has been set as yet.

District VI Headquarters Office has had a taste of fire prevention at its best. Stockwell and Benny, a local stationery concern, submitted an invoice to this office to which was attached our very own "Smokey" blotter.

The other day Butch Skinner, State Forest Ranger, San Bernardino County initiated our Deputy to the finest thing of life---namely an extensive fishing trip. It appears as though Butch has made a convert as many "Fish stories" have been passing throughout the office, particularly when Associate Ranger Jack Burke and our Deputy sit down to compare notes.

Assistant Engineer Neil Rice spent two weeks in Sacramento, during which time he was able to visit his old home state of Oregon. His absence brought here Associate Ranger Erb who photographed land notes at the General Land Office in Glendale. Neil missed a good chance to display his ability with the lens.

The Fire Prevention Educational Program in District VI has developed rapidly in the last two months. This has been due to the interest taken by the Kiwanis Club in this area. Mr. Tom Gore, Chairman of the Public Affairs Committee of the Riverside Kiwanis Club, became interested in some form of conservation and approached Deputy State Forester Mace with a request for information as to how they could possibly assist in such a program. Mr. Mace then discussed with him the overall 1948 Fire Prevention Campaign which was to be carried out in the State.

Mr. Gore felt this to be a very worthwhile project for the Kiwanis Club, and called a meeting of all Public Affairs Chairmen of those clubs located in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. At this time they discussed a program by which they could assist in the passing on of the importance of conservation and fire prevention to the public, realizing that the State Division of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service with their limited personnel could not possibly contact all the people necessary to make such a program as effective and efficient as it should be.

With the above thought in mind, it was decided to select a leading citizen in each community to act as chairman of a group composed of representatives from the different service clubs and community organizations to assist the U.S. Forest Service and the State Division of Forestry in distributing their fire prevention material. This group is composed of the following committees: Newspapers, radio, motion pictures, schools, posters, literature, displays, exhibits, youth clubs, and public contacts. Different members of the group called together which represent the community were asked to be responsible for one of the above committees and in that way Lions Clubs, Kiwanis, 20-30 Clubs, Women's Clubs, and other similar organizations were made responsible for one phase of our Fire Prevention Educational Program.

These organizations have been developed in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties and are in the process of being formed in Orange County. The groups which are functioning at the present time have shown a great deal of willingness to carry out this program and have already distributed large quantities of literature and posters to the public which the U.S. Forest Service and the State Division of Forestry could not possibly contact. Considerable interest has also been displayed by newspaper editors in giving space for news releases and editorials. Numerous advertisers are also using "drop-ins" in their ads and fire prevention plugs. It is anticipated in the coming months that these groups will be especially beneficial as time goes on in educating the public to their responsibility of preventing fires.

Norman J. Harris
Fire Prevention Officer

At the recent training school for Foremen and Drivers held at Cuyamaca State Park, the feature event was the establishment and operation of a regular fire camp. Camp was set up with designated drivers and foremen acting as camp boss, assistant camp boss, timekeeper, assistant timekeeper, transportation officer, and tool tender. All positions necessary for efficient operations were filled.

Actual conditions were simulated as near as possible and a complete cycle of operations was carried out. The Assistant Rangers acted as instructors and saw to it that all special problems, headaches, and backaches were inserted. In a very short while the drivers and foremen realized what took place in fire camp operations other than "chow" and "sleep".

Comments: "But, this man can't sign his name, how can we pay him?"
"So this is what the men in fire camp do - I'll take the fire line!!!"
"It helps to be crazy!!!"
The object: To train these men in fire camp management for later duty.

The opinion: We'll take the fire line. Amen!

Walter G. Francis
Associate State Forest Ranger

The period of May 5 - 7 saw a most interesting series of rural fire prevention lecture-demonstration programs throughout San Bernardino County conducted by Mr. Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester of the University of California, and C. U. Ulrey, Assistant Ranger. This activity was jointly sponsored by the Agriculture Extension Service and the California Division of Forestry.

About a month previous to this time, Mr. Art Campbell of the Extension Service in San Bernardino County and Ranger Skinner's office completed the arrangements for Mr. Metcalf's visit to the aforementioned County. The programs were to take place in the west-central and east portions of the County at public schools and in addition there were to be appearances before civic organizations and over a local broadcasting station.

Excellent cooperation was forthcoming from the press and radio throughout the County with respect to publicity preceding and as a follow-up to this fire prevention activity. Equipment dispatched by Division headquarters to support the programs was a heavy pumper and the jeep-firefighter which was radio-equipped and carried forty gallons of water with a high pressure pump. Although used as a firefighting unit as well as for scouting and directing operations on large fires, it has been more than valuable in several prevention publicity assignments.

A cab-over 500 gallon type pumper was also assigned to the three day prevention operation in order to better demonstrate the equipment needed for rural fire control. This unit is of the type mounting a Hardie high pressure unit just behind the cab and an Edwards pump forward. Hand tools and breathing apparatus were also used for demonstration purposes.

Used to illustrate first aid fire equipment and to offset the modern fire units was the common household bucket and coffee can -- and with noticeable effect on the audience.

The meeting held at the high school in Chino also presented an interesting picture to those present of the mutual aid existing between the various elements of the fire service within the State. The following departments were represented:

Chino Rural Fire District, U.S. Forest Service, L.A. County Forester and Fire Warden, and the California Division of Forestry.

In addition to the fire equipment demonstration, the following fire prevention films were presented as part of the programs: "Crimes of Carelessness", released by the National Board of Fire Underwriters and "Frying Pan to the Fire", a cooperative prevention release.

Captain Schroyer representing Chief Art Wagoner of the Chino Rural Fire District, directed the fire district unit through its paces — a Seagrave pumper — which had been assigned to this joint prevention activity in addition to the forestry equipment.

Personnel having the pleasure of assisting Mr. Metcalf during his brief sojourn in Southern California and looking forward to again working with him were as follows: Mr. Art Campbell of the Extension Service in San Bernardino, Captain Russell Ireland, L. A. County Forester & Fire Wardens Office, Captain Schroyer, Chino Rural Fire District, C. K. Cunningham and Chet Nash, prevention officers of the San Bernardino National Forest, along with the following Division of Forestry personnel: Norman Harris, Investigator, E. W. Smallwood, F.F. T.D., Duane Kelly, F.F.T.D., Charles Meidell, F.F.T.D., Dwayne Fisher, F.F.T.D., C. A. Balsom and C. U. Ulrey, Assistant Rangers. Numerous volunteer department personnel and Division firefighters attended the programs.

The attendance of the five programs during the three days was approximately 1,250.

Thomas G. Bryan
Associate State Forest Ranger

On May 15 a rather serious brush fire occurred in the San Jacinto district just east of the famed Ramona Bowl along the hills south of Hemet. The fire started at the base of the hills about noon and burned rapidly up to an old road where it was checked with about only seven acres destroyed. However, soon after the mop-up began a smouldering spot fire that had not been visible suddenly blew up about a hundred yards above the road and ran up a ravine. From then on, it was a battle for seven pieces of equipment and about fifty regular personnel plus volunteers until well after dark.

Due to the topography and wind direction, the fire burned a strip one and one half miles long and in most places not over a quarter of a mile wide. However, it traversed the residential section on the hills the entire way and at one time six residences were completely surrounded by fire. Only one structure was damaged and that by a spark that somehow blew inside and set fire to the interior. Although only about 150 acres of brush land was destroyed, the combination of monetary, esthetic and erosion values would be difficult to estimate.

The fire started from a blasting fuse and parties responsible had not obtained a permit. They were cited to court, pled guilty and were fined fifty dollars each. They are also facing civil suit for damages to adjacent property.

Highlighting this fire was the fact that Tom Leamon, Editor of the "San Jacinto Register" and State Senator Nelson Dilworth battled the blaze side by side all afternoon. Tom couldn't find a shovel for which we are glad as when he returned he wrote an editorial advocating that everyone carry one in their cars at all times.

On the evening of May 25 a BT-13 plane crashed and burned about four miles

west of San Jacinto. Both the pilot and passenger were instantly killed. Two fire trucks were dispatched from the San Jacinto station and experienced a difficult time in extinguishing the burning gasoline and magnesium metal and at the same time keeping the bodies from being entirely consumed. Cause of the crash was undetermined.

FORESTRY AT HOME & ABROAD

Charles Van Fleet
Assistant State Forest Ranger

CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL MADE FROM WOOD CHIPS

Durisol, new construction material, is now being made from planed and sorted wood chips chemically treated and impregnated to bring about mineralization of the fibers, then mixed with Portland cement. The material is shaped under pressure and dried into panels, slabs or blocks of standard sizes. It is said to be resistant to the effects of moisture, fire and termites, and to have acoustical and surrounding qualities. Suggested uses are: insulating slabs, concrete slab filler panels, intermediate floor slabs, exterior wall panels and combination ceiling slabs.

The new wood product is made by Durisol, Inc., 420 Lexington Ave., New York.

Forestry Digest, May, 1948

FCC APPROVES LUMBER INDUSTRY USE OF RADIO;
CONTROL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION ARRANGED

Announcement was made recently in Seattle that FCC had approved the use of radio for the lumber industry, and organization was completed for handling the use of radio on a nation-wide basis.

The National Forest Industries Communications to represent the entire forest products industry nationally was organized by the radio communication committee of the Pacific Logging Congress.

Wave lengths were assigned under experimental Class 2 license.

Forestry Digest, May, 1948

PREMIER ISSUES DEFINITE POLICY ON FORESTRY

Premier George Drew recently issued the most definite statement on Ontario's future forest policy ever made by the head of a provincial government.

Stating that a fixed and definite policy had been established to be carried out, he continued: "Our forest cut will be such, in future, that at no time will we be in danger of cutting more than we can produce.

"It has been hard to convince many people that we meant it when we said that we were going to curtail exports of our pulpwood so that we will have a continued stand of timber ahead."

Declaring this was no unfriendly gesture towards the United States, Premier Drew said the move was made to insure them of forest stands to obtain adequate requirements in 10, 24, or 30 years from now.

Forestry Digest, May, 1948

CURRENT LITERATURE

"The Great Forest" by Richard G. Lillard. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. Three hundred and ninety-nine pages--illustrated. The text of this story is divided into three parts. Part I tells the part that our forests played in the early development of the United States with particular emphasis on colonial times. Part II deals with the effect of man on our forests and traces the development of the lumber industry. Part III is the story of the growth and development of the conservation movement up to the present time. "The Great Forest" is a colorful history of America's forests.

-O-

"Management of Second-Growth Forests in the Douglas Fir Region"--by the Douglas Fir Second Growth Management Committee, published by the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Portland, Oregon. This 152-page handbook pools readily available information and experience of all agencies into a working manual for the "urgent job of managing Douglas fir second-growth forests more effectively."

Forestry Digest, May, 1948

Fire is a new book by George R. Stewart, the English professor at the University of California, whose Storm of several years ago received high acclaim. The story revolves around a bad forest fire in the fictional Ponderosa National Forest of California. Forest officers, fire fighters, a girl lookout, and an assortment of authentically delineated characters provide action aplenty.

Prof. Stewart spent two summers in the field with forest officers to get the feel of the job. Most foresters who know the region will concede that he succeeded.

Published by Random House, the book sells for $3.00. It is an April Book-of-the Month Club selection.

Forestry News, May, 1948

LUMBER TO AID EUROPEAN RECOVERY PROGRAM

Lumber is one of the important raw materials required under the Marshall Plan. America's forest industries will be called upon to supply nearly three billion board feet of lumber during the next 4½ years under terms of the European recovery program. Based on July 1, 1947, prices, the value of the wood products asked for in the European aid plan approximates $377,000,000. The plan also calls for the United States to supply sawmill and woodworking machinery and equipment worth $63,000,000. Because of current domestic shortages of millwork, siding, hardwood flooring and plywood, most of the lumber exports under the European recovery program would be in the form of rough sawed lumber.

Forestry News, May, 1948

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 6 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor June, 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

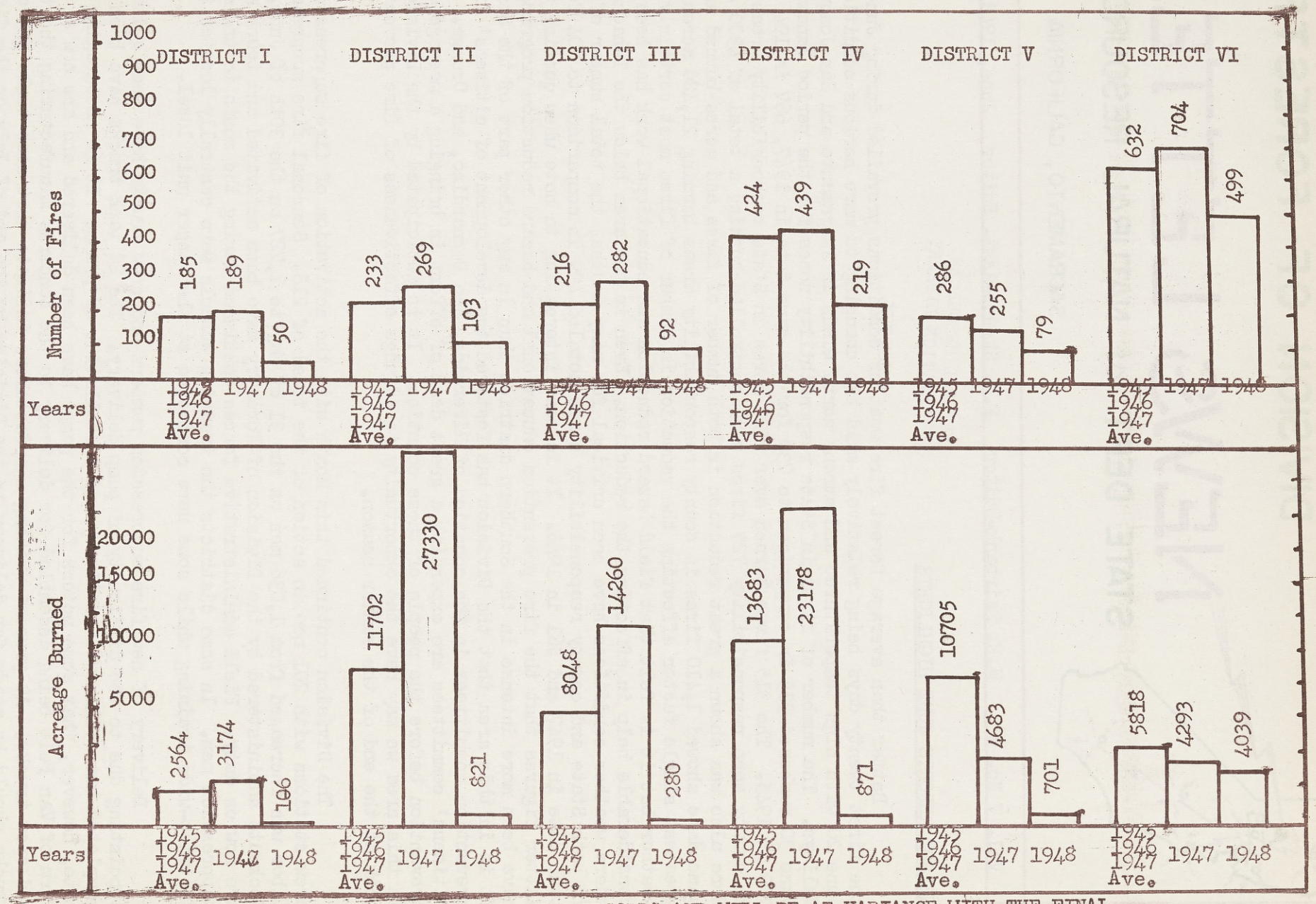
## NELSON REPORTS JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Better than average forest fire weather conditions prevailed during June with the first twenty days being relatively mild but changing to more serious conditions on June 20 with high temperatures and strong north winds in Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. The number of fires in State responsibility zones for the period January 1-June 30 numbered 315 in comparison to 730 for the same date in 1947, 667 in 1946, and 709 in 1945. The 315 fires burned over 2500 acres in State responsibility areas while in county zone responsibility 727 fires were controlled burning a total of 4300 acres. Here also was shown a great reduction in both number of fires and acres burned as 1947 same date showed 1,410 fires in county responsibility areas burning 21,486 acres. The greatest single factor affecting the reduction in number of fires most certainly was weather but it is felt that field hazard reduction and educational work has been of considerable help in effecting the reduction. Even in the area below the Tehachapi's where weather conditions have been critical for many months, the total number of fires in both State and county responsibility zones totaled 499 in comparison to 704 for the same date in 1947 and 561 in 1946. It is most interesting to note when quoting these latter figures that the fire prevention educational and hazard reduction programs have been more intense in the Southern district than in any other part of the State. It is in this area that the Division has fostered the development of citizens' fire prevention committees in the counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange. These citizens' committees are expending a great deal of effort in bringing a message of fire prevention before the people of these counties. It is anticipated by the Division that in this area we may have the opportunity to adjudge effectiveness of fire prevention work at the end of the summer season.

The Division continued this month with the activation of fire suppression crew stations with 201 now in action of the total of 218. Seasonal fire suppression labor was increased from 1,036 men on the 31 of May to 1,727 on the 30th of June. All lookouts administered by the Division of Forestry have been activated and tower men are now on duty. Field administrative forces continued during the month to train new suppression men. In some districts the training schools were centrally located for district-wide training while some were conducted at the ranger unit level.

Delivery of new fire suppression pumpers and crew trucks have been quite disappointing due to the difficulty of pump delivery. The 28 tank trucks have been completed but still await delivery and installation of pumps. It is encouraging to note, however, that some motors for the pumps have been delivered and are now at the firm of Van Pelt being assembled for delivery to the concerns manufacturing the tank and crew trucks. At present writing manufacturers indicate that some tanks and crew trucks should be ready for delivery to the Division by the end of July or the first part of August. Difficulties are also being encountered with the Dodge Company who

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
JUNE 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

were successful bidders on the 33 new pickup trucks necessary for the Associate Ranger position established as a part of the five-day week program. Again as in the case of the tank and crew trucks, Dodge indicates that if transmissions were available all 33 trucks could be delivered to the Division within a week's time but due to the lack of transmissions it is anticipated that a delay of from 30 to 60 days will result.

The 82 new FM mobile radio sets have been received from the manufacturer and should all be installed by the 15th of July. By that time the Division will have 153 mobile sets in operation throughout the State. 16 of the radio repeater units have been converted and are presently in operation. 9 new repeaters are expected from the manufacturer soon and it is hoped that these will be installed and in operation by the first week in August. 34 new FM land stations being produced by the Philco Corp. will, the company says, be out of the factory by June 30 and should be in Division hands and installed by the end of August. In the meantime antenna poles, lead-in cables, and other construction work is being accomplished prior to receipt of equipment.

More than 200 minor construction jobs under $10,000 have been submitted to the Department of Architecture for approval. 44 of these projects are covered by minor construction funds and 164 are a part of the postwar program.

Construction work on Boucher Lookout on Palomar Mountain in San Diego County was started this month and by June 18 all steel work had been completed up to and including the catwalk of the lookout tower. Berryessa Lookout, completed last month, was formally dedicated during June by personnel of the Division of Forestry from Napa, Lake, and Sonoma Counties, District I, and Sacramento Office. Those in attendance at the ceremony included more than 35 local inhabitants interested in the part the lookout will play in fire protection. It is anticipated Mt. Jackson Lookout in Sonoma County will be dedicated in July.

Analysation of the 1948-49 budget has been completed by the fiscal section this month with completed information being sent to the field by July 1. It is interesting to note that this is the first time in many years that this task has been completed at this early date. District administrators now have complete information of budget breakdown at the start of the fiscal year.

The basis for a long-term coordinated training program for Division of Forestry personnel was inaugurated this month with the assignment of a man in the Fire Control Office to the task. His duties and responsibilities will include the development of the best possible program of training for the fire control group State-wide.

Two foresters meetings were held during the month. The Northern California Section of the Society of American Foresters met in Chester on the 5th and 6th of June and the Amador ElDorado Forum Society of American Foresters on June 19 in Placerville. Both meetings included field excursions.

Forest management problems of the Mt. Home Tract in Tulare County were discussed during the month by the Board of Forestry who met on the property on the 14th and 15th. Local citizens from the area interested in the development of the forest were present for the discussion. Surveys of the Boggs Mountain Tract of 3550 acres have been completed this month and will be presented to the State Board of Forestry at the July monthly meeting. Hampering the efforts of the Forest Manager's Office this month was the loss of his assistant who has taken a position with the Western Pine Association here in California. To date there has been no replacement made.



YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

## WILLIAM S. ROSECRANS, CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY GIVEN HONORARY DEGREE

William S. Rosecrans, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry was given this month an honorary LLD Degree for outstanding public service to the State and Nation from Loyola University of Los Angeles. Mr. Rosecrans graduated from Loyola in 1908 and received his Masters Degree from the same institution in 1910. This is an honor well deserved by Mr. Rosecrans for his work in many fields of public service of which Forestry is outstanding.

Mr. Rosecrans is also Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, President of the American Forestry Association and active in many other fields of public service.

## SAN FRANCISCO MEETING PLACE FOR BOARD OF FORESTRY

The July meeting of the California Board of Forestry will be held in San Francisco on Friday, July 23. The principle topic to be considered will be the recent surveys made by the Forest Manager's Office of the Boggs Mountain Tract of timber in Lake County aggregating some 3,550 acres. All indications at the present time point to the fact that this area would be entirely suitable as a State Forest. The County Board of Supervisors of Lake County has recently indicated their approval of the possible purchase by the State of this Area. It will be recalled that this condition must be met before the State can acquire land under the State Forest Act of 1945 as amended in 1947.

## GEORGE CRAIG ACCEPTS POSITION WITH WESTERN PINE ASSOCIATION

George Craig, Forest Technician and for the past eighteen months Assistant to the Forest Manager of the Division, has accepted this month the Forest Engineer position in Southern Oregon and California for the Western Pine Association. George's new duties commence July 1. Speaking for the Division your Editor wishes George the best of luck in his new job and expresses the loss to the Division of an extremely capable and competent man.

## 2-4-D SPRAYING DEMONSTRATION

From June 21 through June 25 the U.S. Office of Blister Rust Control conducted a series of experiments on spraying Ribes with 2-4-D solutions from a Helicopter. This work was carried on in the Sierra National Forest, using the Miami Blister Rust Control Camp near Wawona as headquarters.

Various interested persons not connected with the Bureau of Blister Rust Control had an opportunity to visit the camp and witness these experiments. It is understood that among the State Division of Forestry personnel who attended were Deputy State Forester Metcalf and Forest Technicians Schlobohm and Meyer.

Flying took place from about 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 or 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, depending upon air stability conditions. The actual elevation from which the flights were made was between 5500 feet and 6000 feet above sea level, but due to ground heating, this represented an equivalent air density elevation of around 7800 feet for flying conditions near the surface of the ground. The pay load on the Helicopter varied between 10 and 20 gallons of 2-4D solution on each flight, and 5 gallons was said to give a single coverage to approximately 2 acres. The spray which got through to the ground was checked on certain test plots by using a red dye in the solution and by distributing large pieces of white filter paper on the ground in a systematic pattern below the brush. The amount of red spotting on the paper was used as an index of how much 2-4-D was penetrating the brush crowns in getting all the way

through. Due to the fact that the large horizontal rotating blade of the Helicopter moved 1,000,000 cubic feet of air downward per minute, a considerable amount of upswirl from the ground resulted and the underside of the foliage received some of the spray.

Spraying heights were between 20 and 50 feet elevation above the immediate terrain and slopes were from 100% upward. On each run a swath of around 60 feet was covered by the spray. The same ground was covered from one to 3 times with solutions which varied in concentration from 2 to 29 fluid ounces per 10 gallon quantity. Ground control was arranged by the use of signal flags, using a red one on the upper end of the flying strips and a white one at the lower end. The positions of the strips were carefully plotted on maps and marked on the ground in order to record their exact location for future reference.

On the first day of the experiment the solution was made with Diesel oil as the solvent and an "ester" was included which saponified and clogged the spray jets. After the first day water was used as a solvent and no difficulties from clogging resulted.

The ground cover was extremely brushy and included Ribes nevadensis in the ravines and Ribes roezli on the hillsides. It is not known what the effect of the 2-4-D will be on the several species of broadleaf plants generally, and in fact it will take from 3 months to a year to determine the effectiveness of the spraying on the two species of Ribes present on the area. Due to the steepness of the terrain, the density and size of the brush and the considerable amount of Ribes present, it was felt by the Blister Rust officials that if the kill on Ribes is as much as 80% the results will be economically positive from that standpoint. It is also estimated that effective flying heights range from 30 feet downward and that on a commercial basis around 20 acres can be treated by this method per hour of flying time.

The rental charge for the Helicopter for the purpose of this experiment was $70.00 per hour, but Pete Slessinger of the Helicopter Service stated that that price was a little cheap for the type of flying that had to be done in this work. It was indeed most awesome to see the Helicopter fly toward the steep slopes and into canyons, pivot about and sweep downward, just grazing the oaks and the taller brush specimens, and at times fly in between and below the tops of the scattered conifers.

H. P. Meyer
Forest Technician

FIRE-WEATHER ADVISORIES FOR LOGGERS

A forecast service for loggers in the North Coast region will be inaugurated this fire season. The San Francisco Forecast Center will prepare a logger's forecast each evening, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays for Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties and transmit same to Weather Bureau Office, Eureka along with the State forecast which is telegraphed to Eureka each evening. The material added to the State forecast will contain mention of winds and relative humidities. This forecast will be broadcast over radio station FIEM at 10:15 p.m. and 6:50 a.m., DST. A second forecast will be prepared for Napa, Lake, Sonoma, and Mendocino Counties and telephoned to Santa Rosa 4321 at approximately 7:45 p.m., DST. Santa Rosa will relay the forecast to radio station KSRO at Santa Rosa for later broadcast. The logger's forecast transmitted to Santa Rosa should contain mention of wind direction and velocity, weather, temperature, and relative humidity.

Ralph T. Hanna
Western Fire-Weather Coordinator.

THE PRAYER OF THE TREE

"I am the heat of your hearth on cold winter nights, the friendly shade screening you from the summer sun, and my fruits are refreshing draughts quenching your thirst as you journey on; I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table, the bed on which you lie, and the timber that builds your boat; I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead, the wood of your cradle, and the shell of your coffin; I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty; Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer, harm me not."

Portuguese quotation
From "The Sower", Mens Garden Club of
Broome County, N.Y.

ELDORADO-AMADOR FORESTERS MEET

The annual Spring field trip of the El Dorado-Amador Forest Forum was held Saturday June 19, 1948. There were approximately 100 in attendance including representatives from industry, State Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, University of California. Special guests included Don Waddell, Dean of the School of Forestry, University of Georgia, Rodolfo Yussem, Forest Service, San Luis, Argentine, and Bartolome Frontera, Forest Service, Spain. The tour started at the Raffles Hotel, Placerville, and went to the Placerville Lumber Company Plant at Smith Flats, where Earl James gave a very interesting talk on the manufacture and use of wood flour. Next stop was the El Dorado County headquarters station of the State Division of Forestry. There was on exhibit here, a mobile kitchen unit, fire trucks, radio car, heavy duty transportation truck and a fire prevention section. State Forester, Nelson, gave a brief resume of equipment acquisitions and needs. Next Farm Forester Bill Maguire held a pruning demonstration using 4 H boys and also showed the party a Christmas tree planting made by the Club. From here the party traveled to Fresh Pond where a planting of hybrid pines and non natives had been made by the Institute of Forest Genetics. At Fresh Pond the sawmill of the Placerville Lumber Company was visited and several features in sawmilling were explained by the mill boss. New ideas in resawing and planing have been developed here, and are working out quite well for the company.

Lunch was the next order of business and Harvey West, owner of the Placerville Lumber Company proved to be a fine host. Forest Service risk cutting areas and pruning areas were next visited and the tour ended with a delicious dinner at Strawberry Lodge. Music and songs were furnished for this occasion by the Berry Brothers. It was the general opinion that this was a very worthwhile tour splendidly managed and conducted.

A. J. Hayes
Associate State Forest Ranger

MOTION PICTURE HOUSES TO RUN FIRE PREVENTION TRAILERS

The California Fire Prevention Committee was successful this month in obtaining approval and support by the Motion Picture Theatre Chains of California to run from July through October a series of short, ten to fifteen second, fire prevention trailer shorts. The Conservation Association of Southern California is financing the preparation of two of the trailers and the Division of Forestry three. The trailers are being prepared in Hollywood by the firm, West Coast Products, who have assured the distribution of fifty prints to the theatres in California to be run for a period of from one to three weeks in each theatre in California during

the months July, August, September, and October. The first trailer was distributed to the theatre chains on July 1 and there will follow a new trailer to the theatres approximately in three weeks.

In order that we may obtain an idea as to the coverage your Editor would appreciate a note from those Division personnel who see a fire prevention trailer shown at any of the theatre houses over the State. Address your information to the State Forester's Office through channels indicating the theatre, the town, and the date of showing.

William H. Fairbank, Editor

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### FROM EL DORADO

Melvon L. Miller, former Assistant Ranger in Lassen County has been assigned to El Dorado County as Associate Ranger. Mel seems to think it's a little warm "down here".....wonder what he'll think along about September when it really warms up? Another new face in El Dorado is that of Assistant Ranger W. H. Thompson. Walt was formerly employed in Fresno County.

Radio Station K R V O has a new voice in the person of A. W. (Bill) Jones who hails from Santa Clara County and held the same position there. Bill, Mrs. Jones and son Tommy, are living in the newly constructed dispatcher's residence at Mt. Danaher.

We are also happy to welcome into the fold one Bill Maguire. Bill was Farm Forester for the U.S.F.S. until recently, when he transferred to the State in the same position. He can be found (occasionally) in his headquarters in Placerville, El Dorado County.

Mt. Danaher was the scene of much activity Saturday, June 19th, when the Amador-El Dorado Section of the Society of American Foresters made it a stop on their annual Spring field trip. Different types of transports, dozers, firetrucks, a compressor unit and rolling kitchen were on display outside, while the inside of the warehouse was devoted to radio, forest practice, and fire prevention. Among the 80 visitors, those from the CDF included State Forester Nelson, M. Pomponio, F. Dodson, Deputy Dunow, J. W. Tomblin, Raleigh Taylor, Don Bennetts, Jim Fenlon, Jim Hayes, Jerry Reinecker, Robert Carey, and Bill Maguire. Bob Orr of the Western Fire Equipment Company received many favorable comments from the crowd on his pneumatic flame throwers.

James L. Barnhart
Assistant Ranger

### SUDAN GRASS FOR FALL FORAGE

One of the ranchers in Madera County has combined fire prevention with the idea of getting additional Fall forage by planting sudan grass in his disced fire break. This grass is now just beginning to show above the ground and will provide a green band of forage during the height of the fire season. It is felt that this plan has considerable merit and should be passed on to other ranchers in the State, particularly in the hot drier localities.

Dean Schlobohm,
Forest Technician

TOOT TOOT!!—THEN IT HAPPENED

Ranger Arthur Moberg of Madera County predicts a stormy career for fire fighter Eugene Zule, 22, of Madera Headquarters if his first report of injury can be used as a barometer. It seems that Zule, deep in the Land of Nod, was in the midst of dreaming of cowboys and Indians and such things that enter the subconscious mind of an active young man, when suddenly a switch engine standing on a nearby siding gave a lusty toot on its whistle disturbing Zule's otherwise peaceful dream to the point that he thought he was being chased by an angry locomotive. Whereupon, he promptly jumped out of bed, tore the barracks window from its hinges, and dove through the screen to the ground below. Though Zule did not awaken until he was picked up by crew members and subsequently taken to a local hospital with a serious knee injury, rumor has it that his bunk mates were so startled by their rude awakening that it took Assistant Ranger Hickle twenty minutes to reassemble his crew. That is, of course, after Hickle climbed out from under the truck where he supposedly took refuge waiting for the dust to settle.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

MOUNTAIN HOME HISTORY - Chapter 3

Our readers will remember us mentioning the so-called Centennial Stump in the last issue. Whether the Centennial Stump is entitled to that name is difficult to determine. There is agreement that John McKiearnan, Ed Manley, and J. R. Hubbs cut this tree, hollowed out the base, cut the outside ring into slabs which were re-assembled and put together with iron bands. It was exhibited at various Valley places, San Francisco and is supposed to have reached the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. It was a commercial proposition, not a community exhibit.

The late Mrs. J. Brown of Porterville published a rather detailed story in a Porterville paper in 1923 outlining the history of the project. Financially it was a dismal failure. When exhibited in the East people thought it was a fake—parts of several trees bolted together. A picture taken in Porterville of what is supposed to be the Centennial exhibit shows a section only about seven feet high, though there may have been another layer that was not assembled for the picture as other versions say that 14 feet of the base of the tree was hollowed out.

This Centennial Stump is one of the attractions of Mountain Home Tract. Conflicting evidence is a story of the project which was published in a "Tulare County Register" of 18—and the date of the cutting of the tree is given as 1878 which is too late, of course, for the Centennial Exposition. A giant Sequoia was exhibited at the Fair in a sideshow. There is a stump at the General Grant Grove of the Kings Canyon National Park which is also called a Centennial. Apparently, there was no Porterville paper at that time for no file exists locally, but possibly a check of the Visalia Delta might reveal something to determine the date of this project.

The tree that wouldn't fall when completely cut off has been a source of wonder for years. It has been publicized in national publications and featured by Ripley's "Believe It Or Not". When the whole story is told it isn't so mysterious. This tree is a big dead Sequoia snag that might have been struck by lightning and lost its top. It is 60 or 80 feet high. It was sawed completely through, but because there was no top to help overbalance the truck and because of insufficient undercut it was impossible to wedge it over. Oscar Van Deusen of Lindsay, W. N. Mitchel of Pinehurst, and Jack Dottie of Corcoran worked on the tree. As near as

we can ascertain the date it was around 1897.

To be Continued.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

COMPETITION FOR SINATRA

Recently Ranger Britton was requested by the principal of the Campbell Union High School to speak on Forestry before the Senior students. Ranger Britton detailed our new Associate Ranger Gervice Nash to the job.

Along came the fateful day June 10, 1948, long to be remembered by our speaker Nature Boy Nash. The writer has on good authority, that after Associate Ranger was introduced to the class, he walked up to the front of the stage where there were considerable oh's and ah's and sighs from the female part of the audience. It is my understanding that our speaker did a slow burn in the best Edgar Kennedy fashion.

It is also the writer's understanding that the talk Mr. Nash gave was well received by all and considerable attention given by the ladies of the class. Well, I always said that Gervie really was a knock out in his new Eisenhower jacket. By all good reason this story should close, but for one incident and that is the pay line. After Mr. Nash slipped out of the rear door for cooler climate, and just as he was getting into his car, up went a window in the school house and out popped two blonde heads, girls' heads that is, a long sigh followed by a lingering "Goodbye Now"------

Due to the writer being in good health at present, and wanting to stay that way, I must decline to sign the above story.

GUESS WHO?

MANPOWER - EDUCATION- CONSTRUCTION IMPROVES IN SAN BENITO COUNTY

Assistnat Ranger James W. "Bill" Reed was the proud pappy of a bouncing baby boy. Little James Robert Reed weighed in at 6 pounds nine and one-half ounces at the Hazel Hawkins Hospital at Hollister, June 4, 1948, at 10:09 A.M. This makes the second for Bill. One future firefighter and one firefighter's wife.

State Ranger "Les" H. Gum, Assistant Forest Technician John Dowdaken, and Fire Prevention Officer Mace Pewtherer, teamed up with State Forest Ranger John P. Wade to put on a program of motion pictures and talk regarding forestry as a profession and a possible college major, to the Hollister High School and Junior College, May 21, 1948. John "Bugsy" Dowdaken presented a very interesting talk and "Les" Gum showed pictures pretaining to the possibilities of Redwood as a structural material. All this was done under the intense scrutiny of Mace "Dick Tracy"Pewtherer who was over to act in his official capacity of Fire Prevention Officer.

Two new sites have been leased in San Benito County for ermanent Fire Control Camps. Most likely the projects will be started this summer. First camp to be worked on will be Bitterwater which is at present a tent camp. This camp will be located along San Benito River on Hernandez Valley road at Blue Jay Splash. Second camp will be the Pinnacles camp which at present is located at the Pinnacles National Monument

and housed in the C.C.C. barracks. The new site for this camp will be located in the north end of Bear Valley along State Highway #25. We will be looking forward to the completion of these camps.

John P. Wade
State Forest Ranger

JUNE IN THE SUNNY SOUTH

District VI Headquarters has taken on the aspects of Convention Hall in Philadelphia with as many visiting Firemen as the Republicans have presidential nominations. District VI enjoys being hosts and it is always a treat to see a northerner.

On July 1 this office will welcome Douglas Glenn, Dispatcher into its fold. We will enjoy having Doug abroad.

The home is where the hat lies and Deputy Mace has a new hat rack. Our Deputy and his family have recently purchased and moved into their new home, in which they are extremely happy.

It appears as though Associate Ranger and Mrs. Jack Burke are soon to have an addition to their family, a potential firefighter Jack hopes. Mrs. Burke was honored with a shower on June 18 at which all the girls from District VI Headquarters and San Bernardino County Headquarters participated.

Our rota for San Bernardino County personnel once again holds the name of Dolores Sterett. Dolores has been on leave of absence due to illness since November, and we are very happy to have her back.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

W. L. Jones and Robert Voss, Foremen from the Yucaipa and Headquarters stations, respectively, supplemented their regular training schedule by attending the San Bernardino National Forest Spring school held during the period of May 25 - 28 on the Los Flores Ranch in Summit Valley. Those in attendance included personnel from the U. S. Forest Service, State Forestry and Fire Districts. It proved to be a very successful effort covering several phases such as driver training, equipment maintenance, etc, concluding a fire control evolution demonstrated on an actual fire.

The school no doubt was another outstanding example of the ever increasing trend of mutual aid in all aspects of fire control faced by the fire service throughout California.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY GOES TO THE FAIR

With the opening date of the San Diego County Fair nigh upon us, Firefighter Wilson Fansher, Foreman Nick Pfister and Assistant Rangers Hastings and Schori have been scratching their heads over what to put in their exhibit, and where to find time and money to carry out their ideas. With a budget of no dollars and cents to work on, it has been a matter of individual ingenuity and good old "Service Scrouging" to get materials together. "Don't cut this!" and "Go easy on that" ring in their ears as they put to fair use materials that later are to be used around headquarters or outlying stations.

At present it is planned to fill the 36' x 12' booth with a display relating to the "Julian-Cuyamaca Insect Zone", a map of the County Assistant Ranger Districts

with all stations and lookouts shown; a model lookout with Osborne Fire Finder; a complete display of fire tools; some fire statistics from the 1947 fire season; and a model farm illustrating the "right and wrong" of rural hazard reduction. These will be interspersed with fire prevention posters and other data, and fire prevention material will be available for distribution to the public.

Slabs and edgings from the Fred Grand Sawmill at Julian provide the rustic motif in which the booth is constructed.

Although at this writing the booth is not entirely finished, all are working at it, and we hope that an opening day, June 25, we shall be in there selling the California Division of Forestry and fire prevention to the public.

John Hastings and Mike Schori
Assistant Rangers

Something happened in our office
Just the other day
It certainly was funny
Is the least that I can say.

Driver Holmes was calmly sitting
In the office on a chair
When a wood tick up and bit him
And up he jumped into the air.

Such expression of amazement
Its not every day you see,
And he headed for the stairs
Saying "I must have a flea".

Down he came in half an hour
To report upon the bite
Seems the tick would not come out
Though he pulled with all his might.

Later on, up to the Doctor's
Driver Holmes went with his tick
And the Doctor cut the head out
While it nearly made him sick.

So this warning here is issued
To you all to have care,
For you too may be bitten
While sitting on a chair.

Grace Rockwell
San Diego County

As you may haveheard by now, San Diego County has four patrolmen. Thus far in the month we have been in operation, we have made quite a few public contacts and given fire prevention talks and burning permit hours at public meetings.

As far as we have gone, our fire prevention and public contacts have proven worthwhile. Also, we have been working with the ranchers in the field, helping them reduce their hazards before the fire season gets on its way. As the season progresses,

I believe the patrolmen will prove to be essential to the Assistant Ranger of each District, inasmuch as he will get to know the district and the public and can establish himself personally in the minds of the people.

As a patrolman, I can say from the contacts I have made that the public is very interested in knowing that the patrolman is out there to enforce the fire laws and to prevent as many fires as possible. In patroling my district this year, I have noticed fire hazards that have existed for as long as two years and have never before been corrected. By noticing and taking action on such hazards immediately, we can prevent them ever becoming fires.

Patroling the highways we have also noticed that there seems to be a larger number of people picnicking than ever before. The public seems to be choosing hazardous areas for their picnics and campfires for the simple reason that there is such a shortage of picnic grounds in this County. Keeping these campfires within reasonable limits will be a job in itself - especially over weekends. On this subject, I have a question - What can you do when you come up against a Spanish family and "No speaka da Engleesh"??????? I could have accepted the can of beer offered in a universal gesture, but in the line of duty, I had to decline.

We have four patrolmen districts: No. 1 covers Red Mountain and Valley Center areas and is patroled by Raymond H. Banks, Foreman. No. 2 covers the Julian area and is patroled by Foreman Philip W. Crosby. No. 3 covers the Campo area and the patrolman is Bill Seehorn, Foreman, and No. 4 covers Lyons Valley, Bratton Valley, Harbison Canyon, and Suncrest and is patroled by Larry W. Ramsbacker, Foreman.

We have four nice new pieces of equipment - International 3/4 ton Express trucks, with 4 gallon a minute Bean Pumps, 600 lb. pressure and 100 gallon tanks. Before the fire season gets too well along, we should also have our radios installed. What the patrolman gets out of this will be up to the individual man. As far as the organization is concerned, "the sky's the limit".

Maybe this will let the rest of the State know how San Diego County is progressing and that we are doing our best to reduce the number of fires to a minimum. We will be able to give a much more comprehensive report on how these patrolmen are working out after the system has been in operation over a longer period of time.

Larry W. Ramsbacker
Forest Firefighter Foreman
San Diego County

Due to the unceasing efforts of State Ranger Joe Scherman, the people of Orange County and adjacent communities now have a new recreational area for playgrounds picnicking and camping for many years to come.

Recently, the County Board of Supervisors accepted as a gift from the O'Neil Estate, owners of the Rancho Mission Viejo (formerly Rancho Santa Marguerita) a deed for two hundred sixty-eight acres for a Park site. It is located in the mountainous area of Orange County and is boardered for approximately two miles by the main Trabuco Canyon Highway. It is one of the most beautiful spots in the back country of Orange County embracing a portion of Live Oak Canyon and Trabuco Creek and is heavily populated with large dense live oaks and sycamore trees, making an ideal site. The value of the new Park has been estimated at over $200,000.00. In recognition of the O'Neil's generous gift, the County Board of Supervisors has named the new recreational area O'Neil Park.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 7 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor July, 1948

Fish & Game Commission
Library Copy

## NELSON REPORTS FROM JULY HIGHLIGHTS

The State Board of Forestry, meeting in San Francisco on July 23, held an exhaustive hearing on the possible purchase of 3,350 acres of forest land in Lake County, California, as a state forest. The land had been offered for sale to the state by the Calso Company and some of the small timber thereon had been offered by the Setzer Forest Products Inc. of Sacramento. The area lies on the upper reaches of Boggs Mountain, a much used recreational area, south of Clear Lake in southern Lake County. The Board heard opinions on the advisability of purchasing the property from representatives of the forest industries, as well as from local representatives of Lake County. A spokesman for the County Board of Supervisors of Lake County indicated that the acquisition of this area by the state would be most beneficial to Lake County. After a complete study of appraisal reports, made by outside appraisers and technicians of the Division, the Board concluded that the area was favorably situated for state forest purposes, was a timber producing area, and was offered at a reasonable price to the State of California. They unanimously recommended the purchase of the 3,350 acres and some of the small timber thereon to the State Forest Purchase Committee.

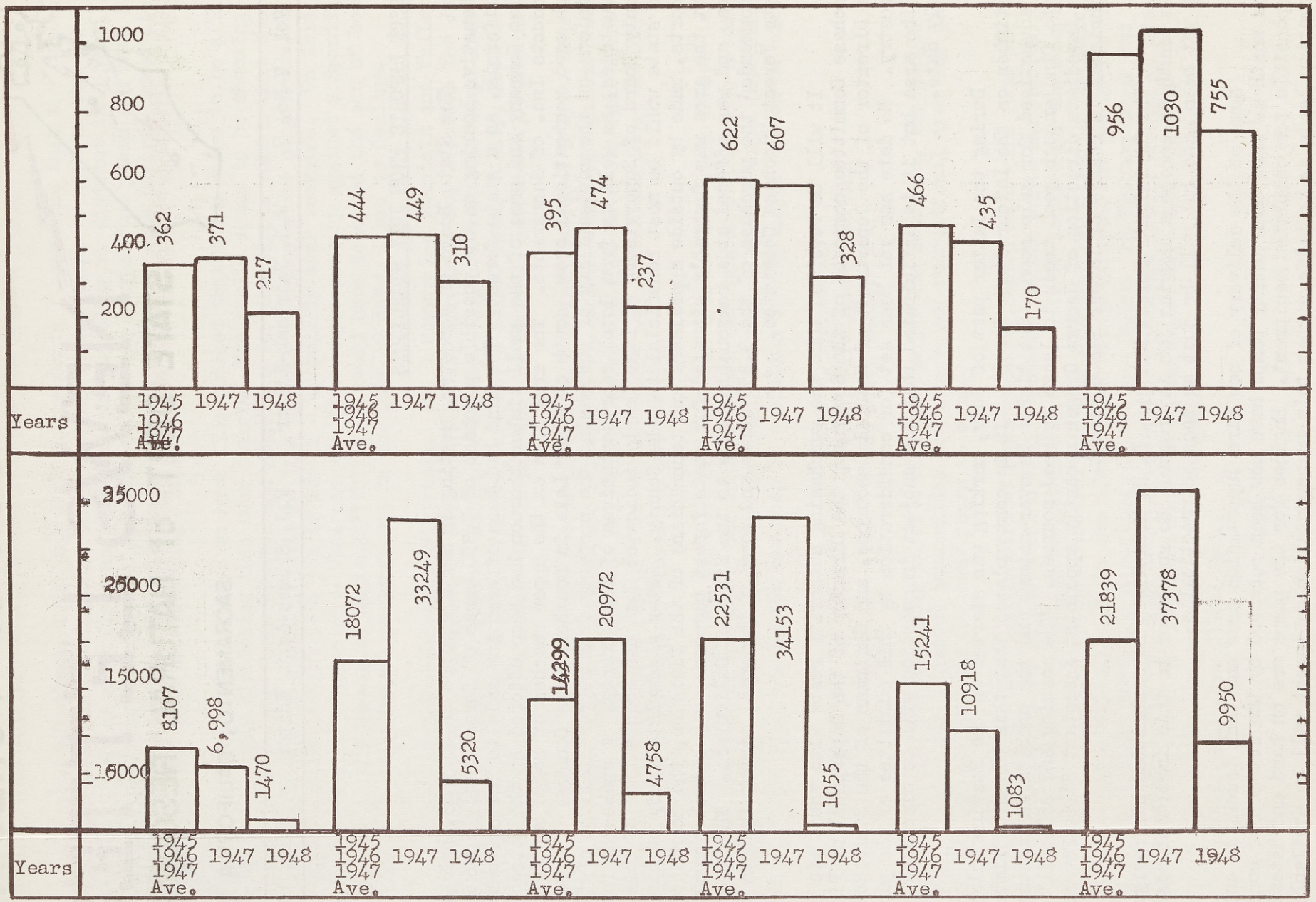
It will be recalled that the purchasing authority rests with the State Forest Purchase Committee composed of the Governor, the Director of the Department of Finance, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, and Chairman of the State Board of Forestry. No date has yet been set for consideration by this committee of the purchase of the area but it is anticipated that the subject in question will be discussed at an early date.

During the latter part of July, marking was started on the Peavine Gulch block of timber on the LaTour State Forest. It is contemplated that this block of timber will be advertised for sale soon. The timber is over-mature and the problem in marking will be to find enough good trees to leave as seed sources. The marking and sale will be under the immediate direction of George Grogan recently appointed Assistant State Forest Technician in charge of LaTour State Forest.

The Division's Forest Manager, P. H. McCanlies, has submitted his resignation this month to accept a logging job in Oregon. No successor to this important position has yet been made but will be just as soon as practicable.

News on the delivery of new fire suppression crew and tank trucks is encouraging this month as more than twenty pumps have now been received by the automotive concern responsible for completed equipment. Engines for the pumps are on hand and latest information leads us to believe that this transportation equipment will be available to the

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
JULY 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

Division for use during the latter part of August or the first part of September.

Installation of radio equipment continues. All equipment manufactured by the Philco Corp. that includes repeater, land, and mobile sets have been received. All equipment of the Motorola type has been exchanged and has been installed. Ninety percent of the thirty-four mobiles manufactured by Philco have been installed as have five land stations. The Division has received partial delivery of equipment from the Link Corp. and has been advised of a final delivery date of August 16. Field radio technicians are swamped with the large quantity of radio equipment arriving at one time. Installation work is proceeding rapidly, however, by drawing on other field personnel for necessary non-technical jobs of installation. Technical details are handled by the radio technicians. It is expected that by the end of August or the first part of September that all of the Division's radio equipment will be in operation.

The Division's engineering section this month spent its time in planning and preparing material lists, estimating, clearing property titles, etc. on the postwar construction and minor improvement programs but little construction work was actually accomplished due to delay by the Department of Public Works in passing on our request for approval of projects under and over $10,000. Work is being seriously delayed and we are hopeful for a partial solution to this problem soon.

Construction work on the Boucher Lookout in San Diego County is about 75% complete.

Fire weather conditions were about normal during the month of July with high temperatures experienced in parts of the state over short periods of time. There were, however, no extenuating periods of weather and high winds were absent. The first serious fire of the month and of the year to date occurred in San Diego County near Barrett Dam. The fire burned approximately 7,500 acres, 4,000 on lands under the protection of the Division of Forestry and 3,500 acres of national forest land. The fire started on the 8th of July and was put under control on the 12th. Division personnel in Shasta County suppressed a 1,000 acre fire near Enterprise on the 15th of July and an 1,800 acre fire was controlled in Tuolumne County near the town of Jacksonville on the same date. Two large fires broke out on the 20th of July in Shasta County, one near Ono and one near Bella Vista but were controlled during the first burning period with a loss of 750 and 600 acres respectively. Fire occurrence during the month dropped more than 300 fires when compared to the July period of 1947. The cumulative fire occurrence figures to date from the first of the year show a total of 2,017 fires on lands protected by the Division in comparison to 3,366 in 1947, and to a three-year average, 1945-47 of 3,245. Again, as was stated last month, we feel the late Spring rains, and the moderate weather conditions that have prevailed since has a great deal to do with the decrease in fire occurrence. It will not be until later when we have had an opportunity to study the fire occurrence record by cause that we will be able to discern whether or not our fire prevention efforts in the field of personal contact, hazard reduction, and group education have had a major part in this reduction. It is the feeling of this Division that the expanded efforts by protection personnel have been of immense help in acquainting local and metropolitan people with the seriousness of the fire problem. We have extended our sincere appreciation of the fine fire prevention educational work done this summer by the many civic and community groups, industrial concerns, and other governmental agencies that are sharing with the state and federal forest services in the tremendous task of educating California's adult population. Participation in the educational campaign on the part of all groups has been more intensive than ever and there is every reason to believe that it is having some effect on the reduced fire occurrence totals as indicated in our cumulative records. There has also been considerable



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY

reduction in the acreage burned by fires to date. A total of 23,636 acres have been devastated from January to July 31, 1948, with comparative figures of 143,635 acres in 1947, and 100,099 acres for the three-year average. Many factors have here, as in fire occurrence, affected these reduced totals. Moderate weather conditions, slow rates of spread, lack of high winds, have been among them, but the Division enthusiastically feels that the preseason training program with summer employees has had a vital effect on the size of fires to date. With employees more efficient, thru intensive training in the May-June period, we have every reason to believe that more effective and efficient fire control has resulted. We are, however, approaching the critical months of August and September that call for maximum effort and stamina on the part of all Division men. Added communication facilities will naturally help during this period as will replacement equipment that at this date seems likely to be delivered to the Division field personnel soon after September 1.

HORACE KENNEDY PASSES ON

A few days ago the Division learned of the untimely death of Horace Kennedy, a Division employee for many years, in Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Kennedy retired a little more than a year ago from the Division and had been traveling extensively with his wife since enjoying a well-earned rest. The Division's deepest sympathies have been extended to Mrs. Kennedy and son Clyde who resides in Glendale. Furneral arrangements have been made at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

CALIFORNIA REDWOODS IN JAPAN

This week we received from Milton P. Duffy, Chief, Bureau Food and Drug Inspection, State Department of Public Health, the following news clipping from the Nippon Times that he detached for our information while in Japan:

"30-year mystery solved when botanist finds California redwood tree grow-in park.

A tree in Tsurumai Park in Nagoya which had baffled botanists' efforts to identify it for 30 years was recently revealed to be the only living California redwood tree transplanted in Japan some 30 years ago.

The discovery was made by Tokitsuna Yokoi, former director of the Nagoya Botanical Gardens, who was vexed for many years by the strange tree which eluded classification. Recently, he consulted "A Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs" in the library of Democracy Hall in Nagoya and finally found that it was a redwood tree, 20 meters high and one and one-half meters in circumference at its base.

Mr. Yokoi believes that when young plants of American species were received by the Tokyo Municipal Office in the 1910's, it distributed some of them among the country's large cities and Nagoya received the redwood plant. He said it was unusual that a redwood tree could have grown to this size in such a low-lying district as Nagoya."

BUDGET HELP

The Operations Section has had several personnel changes due to transfers and to compensate for the five-day week program and several people have been added to the staff to help with the postwar construction program. Mrs. Sylvia Silver, fresh from New York has joined the staff as an Intermediate Stenographer; Beverlie Byder has been employed as an Intermediate Account Clerk to replace Beth Robinson who has been promoted to Senior Account Clerk; Mr. Richard Haney has joined the

staff as an Intermediate Account Clerk to assist us to codify sub-purchase orders into expenditure classifications, the mysteries of which will soon be revealed to all field personnel. (Wait until you see this!!!!)

Melvin Pomponio
Operations Officer

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### CALAVERAS COUNTY NEWS

Francis Bradford, newly promoted to Associate Ranger and assigned to Calaveras County, was given a warm welcome upon his arrival at San Andreas headquarters on July 14th. Old Jup' Pluvius sent the temperature up to 106° two days running. As an Assistant Ranger in San Luis Obispo Bradford was undoubtedly handicapped by the "cold and fog" of that area and if Calaveras County runs true to form we will undoubtedly warm things up for him. Ranger Fenlon was given a similar reception last year with the largest fire of our entire season.

The warm spell of July 15th resulted in this season's initial roll of our "chuck wagon" with Foreman Leo Cassell at the reins. The locale was Don Pedro Dam in Tuolumne County and in one hour after arrival breakfast was being served. The efficiency and value of this unit has been so outstanding that we have been awarded the job of constructing a similar unit for the northern counties in District 3.

What will probably go down in the records as our most disastrous fire of the season occurred in the early morning hours of Sunday, July 18th, when a structural fire in a remote area near Darby Mountain east of Murphys took the lives of two women and a child. Crews from our Murphys and Altaville stations arrived to find the house nearly consumed by flames. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Lilburn White, member of the C.D.F. crew in Tuolumne County, who lost his mother, grandmother and tiny niece in the disaster.

Fire suppression has now replaced a busy winter and spring construction program. The new metallic phone line between San Andreas and Mt. Zion via Sierra Vista is now in operation and giving excellent service. The repeater atop Fowler Peak is operating but with some occasional "bugs" still to be eliminated. Last of our stations to be opened was the new Esperanza camp. The P.G. & E. finally brought in power and Assistant Ranger John Jackson and Foreman Harold Woods formally opened the station with a few well-worded statements.

The success of the Mother Lode's celebrated Murphys "Wingdam" celebration was considerably enhanced by the efforts of Assistant Ranger Herbert Caton, Equipment Operator Foster Vernon, and the Murphys fire suppression crew headed by Foreman Clifford Jamison. They cleared and improved an area near the fire station to such an extent that it brought several offers to purchase the land. It will be a park and picnic ground strategically located along Murphys creek.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

### UNUSUAL HAPPENINGS IN PLACER COUNTY

A number of unusual circumstances came to the attention of CDF personnel in Placer County, all occurring on one day. Any one would be unusual in itself but

having such an accumulation happen on a single day tautly stretched nerves were near the snapping point.

First, a report came in of a log smoking near the edge of the line of a ten-day old fire that had been cold apparently during this time. Investigation proved that the log actually was smoking up and, strangely enough, it was first noticed about 10 a.m. following a very cool night. The log was promptly taken care of.

The second peculiar circumstance happened in conjunction with this fire. While working on the log the crew noticed three boys enter the aperture at the end of an old cement bridge. Shortly thereafter the boys came out and soon after that smoke began coming out. The boys' story was that a tramp had been cooking in there and had left after throwing some debris on the fire. Further questioning later in the day proved that the boys had started the fire themselves. The peculiar part was the fact that the fire was inside a cement bridge burning in debris and we are not yet sure whether to call it a structural fire or a so-called forest fire.

Before it was fully determined that the boys were responsible for the fire two patrols had been sent out looking for the tramp. One of these patrols encountered the 3rd unusual happening on Highway 40 when a large truck came down the highway with its left inside wheel on fire. After a spirited chase in which we fear that the 35 mile an hour speed limit was not observed the truck was flagged down and the fire extinguished. A patrol was placed along Highway 40 to be sure that roadside fires had not been started from the truck.

The fourth unusual happening was a story brought back from one of the drivers on his day off that partially burned pieces of paper, apparently torn at random from magazines, had been dropped by a plane in the Rocklin area. No fires resulted and to date nothing has been found as to the origin of the burned papers.

The fifth, last but not least, happening of note was the return of our stenographer, nee Myrtle Eldridge, from a day off with the news that she is now Mrs. Kimbuck Williams. Williams was formerly employed by the Division in Placer County. We have searched our form book through and there seems to be a form devised for most every activity but we find no record of what to do when a person changes his name.

Emery Sloat
Forest Ranger

PREVENTION PATROL EFFECTIVE

The fact that District IV did not suffer a single fire that could be attributed to anyone of the thousands of persons who traveled through our beautiful valley to the mountains and ocean during the July 4th holiday is the result, in part, of the outstanding prevention job done by Forest Officers on prevention patrol during that period.

Working on prearranged plans Assistant Rangers practically "rang door bells" in recreational areas and on main traveled highways distributing pamphlets and selling fire prevention. In addition, radio equipped fire trucks with specially trained crews were parked at main intersections, roadside drinking fountains and camp grounds and distributed hundreds of pamphlets to persons who perhaps might have never been contacted by our Department.

Many complimentary reports as to these men's activities have reached this

office. One story in particular might well demonstrate how the courtesy of an unidentified forest officer gained for the Division at least five ardent supporters. Our informant advises that near a Highway #41 drinking fountain he overheard three men discussing the attractive prevention pamphlets they had received and remarking on how the Division of Forestry was really working to prevent fires when a lady, who had also been listening, stepped into the group and related how a forest officer had just changed a tire for her and when she expressed her appreciation asked her to accept for her a family a supply of fire prevention material.

We feel that this type of grass root public relations magnified throughout the State will be a factor in the ultimate reduction of man-caused fires.

J. D. Rafferty,
Fire Prevention Officer

THE HEAT IS ON IN KINGS COUNTY

The extreme heat in Kings County has been terrific, the temperature soaring from 100 to 112 degrees, this is the worst we have experienced in a long time. "OLD MAN SUN HAS REALLY GIVEN US A BAD TIME."

Harvesting of grain is over for this year, with an average crop being harvested. The total loss by fire consisted of one harvester, one car and only five acres of standing grain. We feel very fortunate, however, a lot of credit goes to the "FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM LAUNCHED THIS YEAR", spark arresters, etc.

The people in Kings County have been very receptive to this program, also, I have given a tremendous amount of time to further its progress the last few months, numerous meetings in various parts of the county, also, two radio talks over KNGS, the topic of discussion being "CONSERVATION OF OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES." This last week end was spent with the Girl Scouts at Redwood Lake, taking themon hikes and talking to the group regarding fire prevention and suppression. Our friend Dick Rafferty, from the District Office entertained them with the film "Then It Happened". The group consisted of 108 Scouts and 10 instructors.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT IV

The stork has had a busy time in Tulare County this month. So far, he has helped the personnel contribute the following fireman and future firemanettes. On July 10th, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Romine, FFD, Woodlake, contributed a future firmanette. This young lady entered the world weighing 6 lbs., 8½ oz., and like most women, with her mouth open. Congratulations to the proud parents. On July 15th, Mr. and Mrs. James King, FFD, Exeter, contributed a future fireman. This young gentleman weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 ozs. You can't touch Jim and Mrs. King with a 10 foot pole now. On July 20th, Mr. and Mrs. George Marsh contributed another firemanette, weight 7 lbs. 5 ozs. Congratulations to the proud parents, and not to be outdone by Mrs. Romine, George states that his daughter hasn't stopped talking since her birth.

The biggest surprise of all was when Charles Rothgarn, Dispatcher at Visalia Headquarters and a supposed confirmed bachelor, pulled and tugged at one of Cupid's arrows and finally went the way of many a good man and eloped to Reno where he joined the ranks of the benedicts by saying "I Do" with Miss Joyce Shipman of

Fresno. The groom returned to work at Visalia and the bride is in Fresno until their plans for the immediate future can be made. They were married on July 21st at 11:15 a.m. Congratulations, Chuck and Joyce.

Marvan Ewing,
Associate State Forest Ranger

Law enforcement cases and recent investigations in Mariposa County have indicated to Ranger Hufford that many nuisance roadside fires are traceable to juveniles and are set with no apparent reason other than because they have nothing constructive to do and are bored by their inactivity. Hufford, the head of a teen age family, points out that in many small towns, unlike metropolitan areas, are giving little or no thought to juvenile recreation as a delinquency preventive. Confident that many fires could be prevented and the seed of conservation and fire prevention implanted in the minds of tomorrow's citizens by a well-rounded recreational program, Hufford urges forest officers to investigate and take an active part in programs toward this end, particularly now that the 40-hour week permits participation in civic affairs.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

FIRE PREVENTION - SAN BENITO COUNTY

We have as of August 15th, completed our "Paper Campaign", in regards to our fire prevention work. August 5th saw the bottom of the pile in our blotters, leaflets, and posters. We heaved a sigh of relief and sat back and tabulated the results of our efforts. They are of sufficient interest to pass along. Blotters and letter inserts were given this year, as in previous years, to all banks and business houses for inclusion in their monthly statements. Folders were made up containing the following:

| | |
|---|---|
| California State Fire Law | (Booklet) |
| Be Careful | (Leaflet) |
| Keep California Green | (Booklet) |
| Blotter | |
| Protect Our Future | (Letter Insert) |

The above was bound, stapled, and stamped with a "Smoky The Bear" stamp. They were then put into 1375 RFD boxes in San Benito County by mailmen Marion Hall and Bill Reed, Assistant Rangers in Panoche and Pinnacles districts. The "mailmen act" also served to bring the boys around to the ranches during harvesting time, and inspections were made of every piece of harvesting equipment in San Benito County. Also letters were sent to every rancher in the county reminding him of the need for spark arresters and fire extinguishers on the equipment. There were no violations when the equipment was inspected. Also time was found to put up over 3000 prevention posters along the roads and in shop windows in the three principal towns in the county. All hazardous fire areas were posted and incidentally three-fourths of the county, is in this area. Fire prevention talks were given to the Hollister High School, Junior College, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and to several business clubs in the county. Motion pictures were shown to the Junior College and High School and will be shown to the V.F.W. and Boy Scouts. Letters were also sent to all large land owners reminding them of the forthcoming deer season and the dangers to be encountered. Several demonstrations were given and the Forestry's aims were continually brought to public attention. Notable of the demonstration was at Bolado Park Horsemen's Show, where several hundred leaflets were passed out and

posters designed and printed by L. H. Gum, State Forest Ranger of Santa Cruz County, were hung throughout the grounds.

Roadside burning was carried out the length of San Benito County by Foremen Robert Clark, Larry Young, and Jorgen Toft. Both sides of the State Highways #25 and the Panoche road were burned and later "bladed" by the Division of Highways and county crews.

Now the results: Maybe it is too soon to look for results but in a county of over 652,800 acres of State protected land we have had fifty fires that burned a total of less than 39 acres. Five of these fires were roadside and they occurred before the roadside was fireproofed. Twenty of the fifty fires were structural and were non-preventable. So it is easy to see that in a tinder dry county comprised mostly of grass and chamise our fire prevention work has shown some results.

Assistant Ranger, Bill Reed is doubling in brass lately. During his working hours he has charge of the west side of San Benito County and after 5 P.M. he is the scoutmaster of the local Sea Scout Troop, Ship #35 sponsored by the V.F.W. Post. Bill is not only trying to make better citizens of the boys but after watching them prowl around the fire station at Hollister it looks as if he is also trying to interest them in being future Rangers and etc.

John P. Wade
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM THE SUNNY SOUTHLAND

When the sun shines in sunny Southern California, it pours and is measured by inches. If the spring-like winters and winter-like summers continue, District VI will be working at fire prevention with the cart before the horse, "Dewey"* weather!

*This District is non-partisan and the views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Division.

The battle is on with bigger and better fish stories; everyone having a better story and a bigger fish. Assistant Ranger E. C. Carlson's son, Punky, came home from camp waving a blue 1st prize ribbon for having caught the prettiest fish while in camp. Unfortunately, Punky had to reprieve the fish as mermaids were out of season. Assistant Deputy Bertsch tried his hand at fishing, fathoms deep in the Pacific Ocean. When approached, upon his return, as to what luck he had, Gene modestly replied "Hardly any". Later upon receipt of snapshots taken on that day, the office was surprised to see Gene flanking a string of some 50 denizens of the deep which he had so ably caught. The most surprised of all was Deputy Mace, who had sympathized with Gene for his bit of bad luck and who had generously offered suggestions, previous to seeing the pictures, on the art of catching much bigger and much better fish.

District VI is losing Marilou Beamer, Intermediate Typist-Clerk to the Department of Motor Vehicles where she has accepted a position as Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk. This office will miss Marilou and we all wish for her much success in her new position.

Former fire crew cook and at present forestry equipment operator, Floyd R. Lessor, San Bernardino County, is passing cigars in announcement of the arrival of his son, born July 29, 1948.

The Division of Forestry is losing a long time faithful servant when R. Neave Sims, Assistant Ranger, San Diego County retires the first of August. "Ray" as his friends know him has served the Division of Forestry for many years and was well known and liked throughout the Division. This District desires to take this opportunity to wish Ray much happiness during his period of retirement and hopes he enjoys his well-deserved relaxation to its fullest.

The pandemonium evoked from the preparation of District VI's budget was mild compared to the paroxysms Norman Harris has been undergoing while awaiting word as to the outcome of his written examination, taken for Fire Prevention Officer. Norm implored the prayers of headquarters staff, which evidently did the trick as this morning a notice from the Personnel Board arrived stating Norm was qualified to meet the firing squad on Monday, August 9. The seizures have not ceased as Norm feels the worse is yet to come; however, it is the consensus that Norm's winning ways will see him through.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Within the last two months, we have assumed the fire protection responsibilities of the following Air Bases in Riverside County: Morton, Blythe, Thermal, and Ryan Field, in cooperation with the County Air Post Commission. This increase in protection area has meant an increase in available equipment, of which four tankers are available for off base use.

This month will see the start of construction on a new county station at Sunnymead, similar in construction to the station built at Indio last year. This will provide a two-bedroom residence, garage space for two tankers, and relief quarters for four men.

The quarters at Ryan Field and Thermal Air Base will also have to be remodeled during the summer, as well as the completion of the new warehouse at Perris Headquarters. All in all, the heavy construction program, coupled with the usual repair and maintenance work is keeping all personnel more than busy. Fortunately, all of our fires have been kept small to date, leaving plenty of time for construction.

Deane L. Bennett
Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

I had the pleasure of working with the U.S. Forest Service on the Barrett Dam fire, July 8 to July 12, 1948. This fire burned over very rugged terrain taking the crews up to three hours of good hard walking time to get on the fire line.

The Forest Service had two heliocopters which ferried one man at a time to the furthest point of the fire in approximately four minutes, from fire camp to fire line, round trip. So, a crew of 30 men could be delivered (fresh) to the fire line in just two hours, saving 30 man hours plus having the crews fresh when hitting the line. The heliocopters were also used very effectively in servicing these hand crews on the line with "hot lunches", mind you, also water and tool replacements.

During this fire we had the misfortune of having several accidents where men broke or sprained their legs. If it had not been for the heliocopters, each one of these cases would have taken several man hours to be carried out to the fire

camp, not to mention the hours of pain for the injured men. There was a very serious accident on this fire, where a U.S. Forest Service man was burned to death. Again the heliocopter came into use in locating and carrying out the body.

There really is not enough I could say to praise the work of the helicopter on this fire. One of the uses I did forget, and by all means a very important one, is scouting the fire. As everyone knows, this takes time and fatigue on the part of the fire boss, where it was done in a very few minutes with ease from the air.

I think all in all, the helicopters of Armstrong and Flint's more than paid for themselves on this fire. The pilots of these ships are all very reliable men and it was a great pleasure working with them.

C. L. Rockwell
Assistant State Forest Ranger

REPORT ON SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

With the conclusion of the San Diego County fair on July 5, it is felt that many more persons have become acquainted with the work being done here by the Division of Forestry. During the eleven days that the fair was in session and our booth on display, an estimated 10,750 persons attended the exhibit. According to Assistant Ranger Mike Schori, who was in attendance at the booth during most of the fair, a lively interest was shown by the public in all that was on display. With the interest shown and many in attendance, the booth has more than served its purpose in acquainting the public with the Division work here.

The exhibit was presented in a 36' x 12' booth constructed of Coulter Pine, White Fir, and Cedar slabs and trimmed with Coulter Pine and Bigcone Spruce cones, all from the Julian area. A sign, Division of Forestry, was made from Manzanita wood and mounted on a slab by fire fighter Byron Brennick and Assistant Ranger Schori, after hours of beating the brush for wood specimens and fitting together the pieces that matched.

Flanking a complete collection of firefighting tools was a model of Mt. Woodson Lookout, accompanied by an Osborne Firefinder; a map of San Diego County Assistant Ranger Districts with CDF Lookouts and Stations; a model of a farm, illustrating the right and wrong of rural hazard reduction as regards to County Fire Ordinances; some 1947 statistics and several samples of insect damage from the Julian-Cuyamaca Insect Zone, accompanied by color pictures taken by Neil Rice, Forestry Engineer.

Foreman Bill Seehorn, who also doubles as a good sign painter, was responsible for enhancing the appearance of the booth with a quantity of signs. At the last moment, the two large signs on statistics and fire ordinances were ruined, but rising to the occasion he started out again and in time for the opening had two signs ready, better than those before.

Credit is also due the Del Mar crew for their help in putting up the booth and help in maning it during the fair.

Not only did the booth serve as a medium of display to the public, the variety of work being done by the Division, but a quantity of fire prevention material was distributed along with that on display in the booth. It is felt that this booth is just a beginning to more successful displays in future years.

John Hastings,
Assistant Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Recent weeks have seen the stepping up of law enforcement activity in San Bernardino County. With the aid of Norman Harris, Investigator for District VI, and Harvey French, Investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, three cases have been successfully carried through. The cases in the west portion of the County dealt with smoking bees and not having proper fireproofing in the apiary area; also, dumping hot ashes in wild lands and not using the public dump as provided and maintained by the County. The two fires resulting from the above acts burned approximately one hundred acres in Zone 3 protection area, and were prosecuted on San Bernardino County fire prevention Ord. 533.

In the East-end District, under Assistant Ranger "Art" Balsom, a fire burning nearly four hundred acres and seriously threatening major watershed areas was the result of a bad muffler on a truck hauling grain out of the field. In addition to the grain, brush land, and structural damage which occurred, a State forestry fire truck was completely destroyed by fire, with fortunately only a minor injury to the crew.

As a result of the publicity in County papers covering the foregoing, it is reported that inquiries in regard to prevention regulations and burning permits have been on the increase through State forestry stations, also fire districts and municipal departments.

A noticeable reduction in fire occurrence is seen in the Morongo-Valley Twenty-nine Palms area due to vigilant efforts of the patrolmen operating through the area, making inspections and general public relations prevention contacts.

A new fire control station in San Bernardino County is located on the desert side at Phelan to the northwest of San Bernardino, giving improved coverage to that area. At present, it is activated with a Dodge Power Wagon unit and a two-man crew. It is understood their routine will be prevention patrol during the forenoon with station duty the balance of the day. As in other localities, much prevention work can be carried on with particular emphasis regarding roadside camper fires.

Unit #245, a new county forestry firetruck was recently placed in service at our San Antonio Heights Fire Control Station in the west-end Assistant Ranger District. This was formerly a military refueling unit and is on an all-wheel drive International truck. The converting and build-up work was done in the Division of Forestry shops at San Bernardino under the supervision of Division mechanic, Larry Shay.

The unit in service mounts a 400 gallon tank with 800 feet of hose in the bed, divided between $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. size and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. size; also has a 100 foot one inch line. Its pumping equipment consists of a 500 GPM auxiliary driver pump, using an 80 G.P.M. Viking for priming and protection of personnel and equipment should mechanical trouble develop in the main pump. The new pumper's auxiliary equipment consists mainly of shovels, cutting tools, extension ladder, pike pole, a pair of portable flood and spot lights, assorted adapters, etc. As in other units, it is equipped with two-way radio communications. All in all, we are mighty proud of the "big feller" out West.

MORE FROM DISTRICT IV

In studying the "props" in Life's colored photo (page 49 of the February 2 issue) depicting Nevada City's rural life, some discussion has arisen to the identity

of the photogenic State Forest Officer shown therein. Could you identify the young man for the girls in the District IV office?

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

NOTE: Your editor can be of no help. Has any one further inquiries.

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### WOOD PRODUCTS INC. FURNISH COLORFUL AND USEFUL ITEMS FOR OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

Colorful and useful products are finding their way into our everyday life - all made from sawdust.

Toppings for tables, bars, counters, wall panels, drainboards, tile are a few of the items being produced today.

Of course, it takes phenolic resins, plastics, melamine treated cloth or paper and heat and pressure - but the main ingredient is pressed sawdust.

All of this is produced by Wood Products, Inc., of Sacramento, California, located in the box factory of the Setzer Forest Products, Inc., and has been developed from research and experimentation of the Hughes Research and Engineering Company.

Dryers, mixers, a laminating press and a complete assemly plant, in operation for over two years, does the work.

Forestry Digest - July, 1948

### FLORIDA USES PELLET SEEDS

Searching for an easier way to plant slash pine trees, the Florida Forest Service has begun a series of experiments with "pelletized" seeds that resemble candy coated pills.

This process, if successful, could replace present forest planting methods, said R. U. Titus, Florida Management Chief.

The pellets are the size of an English pea and are coated with a black, chemical mixture.

Considerable work has been done along this line by the Crown Zellerbach Corp., in the Northwest.

Forestry Digest - July, 1948

### REHABILITATION OF TILLAMOOK BURN STARTED BY OREGON FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

First steps have been taken to reforest the 300,000 acre Tillamook burn by the Oregon State Forestry department.

To determine best methods and techniques in rehabilitating the fire-razed land, the department has felled 2,000 snags in a mile-long corridor and have planted 85,675 Douglas fir and noble fir seedlings under varying conditions. An additional

71,825 seedlings have been planted in blocks outside the corridor to test survival on some particularly adverse sites.

The general plan for the reforestation job is to fell snags and clear fire corridors so as to divide the burn into a series of islands before planting. Then if a fire occurs there will be a good chance of holding it to one of the islands. This precaution is justified by the 1939 fire which wiped out six years of reforestation work when fire swept over the area for the second time.

Forestry Digest - July 1948

## NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS PLAN FOR COORDINATION OF FOREST FIRE PROTECTION CONTROL

The following report was presented and approved by the New England Governors' Conference.

1. Forest fire control activities in all New England states should be the responsibility of and under the complete jurisdiction of the respective state forest agencies. Laws in each state should be enacted promptly to accomplish that end.

Comment: Each state is urged to review present laws with the idea of giving each state forest agency full authority in coordinating all fire suppression activities for all fires.

As a result of the disastrous forest fires of last fall, the New England governors requested the New England Council's Conference of Forestry Officials to prepare definite recommendations on forest fire prevention, control and suppression.

2. Each state should establish immediately for action during forest fire emergencies a central agency to coordinate the procurement and movement of men, supplies and equipment to affected areas.

3. A similar central agency should be established for New England.

Forestry Digest - July 1948

## MASONITE CORP. LAYING PLANS FOR NEW PLANT AT UKIAH

While many problems involved in the utilization of redwood are being worked out, much preliminary work is being undertaken by the Masonite Corp. at Ukiah, Calif., where the company's first western manufacturing division will be located.

E. T. F. Wohlenberg, manager of the Ukiah operations, said the plant will consume about 45 million feet of logs a year.

The company has 57,000 acres of forest land, 50,000 acres of which carry timber of varying ages and classes. Operating on a sound forestry basis, some of the raw material will be in the form of thinnings; some will be developed by a break-down mill operating in the larger timber.

Forestry Digest - July 1948

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

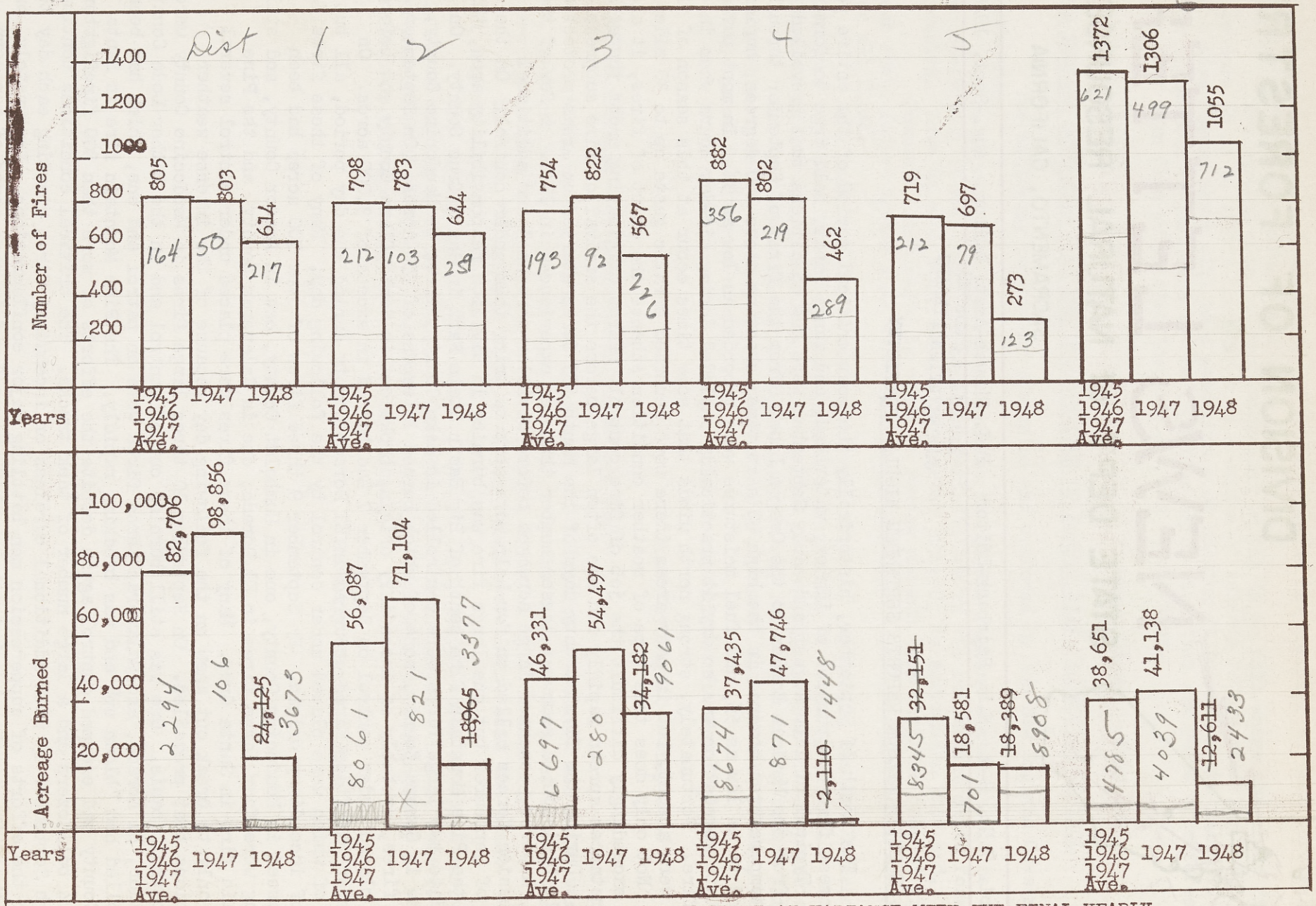
Vol. 7 No. 8-9 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor Aug.-Sept. 1948

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

## STATE FORESTER NELSON REPORTS SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The month of September, historically the most critical period of the entire year for forest fire destruction of timber, watershed, and range lands, held true to form this year. Typical of late August and early September were the conditions that prevailed this month from the Mexican Border to the Oregon Line. From the first of September through the 15th temperatures hovered in the high 90's at times shooting above 100 degrees, humidities dropped to as low as 5%, and fuel moistures were recorded as low as 3%. In most parts of the State vegetation was so dry it practically exploded during mid-day hours when in contact with fire. Fortunately, strong north winds that some times occur at this season of the year, were absent, but in many areas there were recorded erratic gusts up to 30 miles per hour. Not only does this type of weather condition enhance the start of fires, it also makes exceedingly difficult the job of fire control. Fires originating under these circumstances spread rapidly and are often large before the arrival of fire suppression crews. During the first twenty days of the month 553 fires started on areas protected by this Division, a somewhat lesser number than was experienced in 1947. A few of these fires, however, consumed large acreages before Division personnel and additional suppression forces called on for help were able to bring them under control. On the first of September but one large fire was burning in Division responsibility area, this being the Pine Mountain fire south of Big Basin State Park in Santa Cruz County. On that date two large fires were controlled in Lake County, three in Mendocino County, and one in Sonoma County, none of which burned in excess of 350 acres. On September 4 three fires, probably of incendiary origin, broke out in Santa Clara County and before being placed under control on September 7 had burned in excess of 3,000 acres. On September 6 fifteen fires occurred in El Dorado County during the day period, all but three of which were placed under control by the following day. Many of these fires were of incendiary origin. By September 9 three fires of over 100 acres had been suppressed in Mendocino County, one in Humboldt County, one in Amador County, and still burning were four large fires in El Dorado, one in Calaveras County, and the Pine Mountain fire in Santa Cruz. Many of these fires were placed under control several times only to break out anew on the following day because of the intense weather conditions that prevailed. On September 10 three large fires in Mendocino County were on a patrol basis. One was still burning out of control and in the Mother Lode Counties of Amador, El Dorado, and Calaveras three fires were on patrol and one, which had been controlled had "blown up" and was breaking rapidly. The Pine Mountain fire in Santa Cruz County had escaped control again despite the efforts of more than 800 firefighters, some 24 bulldozers and a large number of tank trucks. The critical conditions continued through September 15 with additional careless or incendiary fires starting each day to hamper the efforts of supperession men battling major conflagrations. Fortunately, on the 16th of the month a break in the weather occurred and in some parts of northern California scattered rains fell. Temperatures dropped, humidities climbed, as did field moisture content, and all fires were placed on a patrol basis.

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
SEPTEMBER 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

During this fifteen-day period more than 60,000 acres of watershed and forest land were scorched. 20,000 of these acres in the south coast area below San Francisco, 16,000 in the north coast area, and 25,000 in the Mother Lode Counties area. Conditions throughout the fifteen days necessitated the rapid shift of manpower and equipment from one section of the State to another. Valuable assistance was obtained from the U. S. Army, from prison camps, from lumber companies, and other organization crews and from volunteers. The U. S. Forest Service also was battling fires during this period in the south coast area near Ojai, Ventura County, where a disastrous 20,000 acre fire destroyed valuable property and improvements and in the Mendocino National Forest in the north coast area. Serious fires also occurred within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park on watershed lands above the Hetch Hetchy Dam in Tuolumne County.

Carelessly caused fires did start in all sections of the State but it is important to note that with the exception of the Pine Mountain fire in Santa Cruz County a large share of the damage caused could be either directly or indirectly attributable to incendiarism. This was especially evident in the Mother Lode Counties of El Dorado and Calaveras and in the north coast counties of Mendocino and Lake. Had it not been for incendiary fires in these areas, Division of Forestry suppression forces would have had every opportunity to keep the fires to small acreages. The Division's investigators worked round the clock to get at the source of many of the fire starts but to date have been unable to accumulate sufficient evidence for court action. This investigation will continue with every possible clue being investigated in the hopes that tangible evidence can be secured to initiate action.

Despite the blow up of the first fifteen days of this month, both the number of fires and the acreage burned on areas of State responsibility are the lowest record in several years. Statistical records show a reduction from January 1 through September 20, 1948, of 1,546 with a comparable figure for 1947. In this period 108,000 acres of forest, range, and watershed lands were devastated in comparison to 273,000 as of the same date last year.

Educational prevention efforts were at their peak during the September period in an effort to warn recreationists, sportsmen, and travelers of extreme fire dangers in the foothill and mountain areas. The press issued constant pleas for the public to be cautious and State's radio stations wholeheartedly backed the effort with repeated warnings to travelers about the critical conditions. It is felt that had it not been for this intensive effort, fire occurrence would have undoubtedly been greater.

Among the new problems encountered this month was one having to do with radio communications on fires of campaign size. To obtain satisfactory communications facilities on the Santa Cruz Pine Mountain fire, the Division found it necessary to maintain a mobile radio repeater station carried on a trailer equipped with a portable power unit. The locations of this mobile station was changed repeatedly to facilitate communications. In an attempt to eliminate radio interference in the Mother Lode area, the activating frequency of the Fowler Peak repeater station in Calaveras County was altered slightly. This same experimental work in radio will extend to other sections of the State where interference problems have been encountered. In Lassen County, Fredonyer Peak repeater station was completed and is now in operation.

The Division has this month secured an agreement for the use of some 500 acres of brush land on the Melendy Ranch south of Hollister, in San Benito County for experimental work in range improvement. The study is being undertaken by the Division in cooperation with the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California, College of Agriculture, and other interested agencies. The experiment is planned to run for a minimum period of five years, and will objectively investigate some of the effects of controlled burning on brush lands, values of reseeding, and results of different methods of grazing after burning. A soil survey of the area has been made

by the University of California and work is now in progress in the preparation of fire breaks and control lines necessary to conduct a control burn of approximately 300 acres during October.

The Division of Forestry 1949-50 budget was completed this month in sufficient time to meet the dead line date of October 1 that was extablished by the Department of Finance and the Governor's Office.

A training school for private foresters in the Redwood Region will be held during October, probably from the 18th through the 27th. This school, conducted jointly by the Division, U. S. Forestry Service, the University of California Forestry School, the California Forest and Range Experimental Station and the California Protective Association, will be for the same purpose as one held last year in the Pine Region. Under consideration will be the study of forest soils, aerial photographic interpretation study of north coast timber lands. Part of the period will be devoted to discussions of silvicultural practices, including marking and utilization.

Routine negotiations are being continued to complete the purchase for State Forest purposes of the Calso Water Company property in Lake County and part of the residual timber thereon by precutting agreement with the Setzer Forest Products Inc., of Sacramento.

Approval has finally been obtained for all work presently financed from post-war funds except the Redding District office which is to be advertised for bids in the regular manner.

Material lists and plans for all work are complete and purchase has been started on materials. It should be borne in mind, however, that it is not practicable to assemble full working crews until such time as large quantities of materials are actually on the job. Therefore, notwithstanding approval of our projects by the Department of Public Works, there will be considerable delay before the materials arrive in sufficient quantities to justify full crews.

Dump trucks, concrete mixers and other work devices are on order for delivery and expected at an early date.

Work is progressing on the Mt. Oso (Navy type) lookout tower in Santa Clara County, which has been altered to meet the forestry requirements.

Another source of delay is the extremely difficult procedure required for clearing property acquisitions. No property which we have attempted to obtain under the new regulations has yet been acquired nor have we been appraised of any step taken towards such acquisition. Therefore, we remain entirely in the dark as to the status of a number of our proposed acquisitions upon which new buildings presently allowed, are to be erected.

Reconnaissance surveys have been completed for a proposed road leading from Wishon to Mt. Home Tract.

Considerable work has also been done on the Latour road and Woods Creek truck trail.

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING

The Board of Forestry will hold an executive meeting in San Francisco on October 28 and an open meeting on October 29.

## MICHIGAN WAS STATE FORESTERS' HOST

Forester Nelson attended a meeting of the State Foresters Association at Blaney Park, Michigan, September 27, 28 and 29.

Members of the Association took a one-day field trip to inspect selective logging operations in northern hardwoods on private lands. They also inspected forestry and game operations on state lands in the Upper Peninsula area. A conference was held with representatives of cooperating federal agencies in regard to legislation and procedure affecting cooperative activities. Programs in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin were outlined by representatives of the three states during the meeting.

## VISITORS TO LOOKOUTS

A recent study made in the Fire Control Office showed that 4,508 persons visited CDF operated lookouts in the month of August, 1948. (These figures are somewhat incomplete as only 62 lookouts of the 79 lookouts the State operates gave reports which could be used in the study.)

Boucher Lookout in San Diego County was head and shoulders above the rest of the state insofar as the number of visitors was concerned. Boucher reported 1616 visitors, or 36% of the state total. Boucher was the only lookout which reported visitors on every day of the month, although Mathison Lookout, Mendocino County, St. Helena Lookout, Sonoma County, Little Mt. Lookout, and Summit Lookout, San Bernardino County; and Eagle Rock Lookout, Santa Cruz County, had visitors on over 20 days out of the month. With respect to total number of visitors Loma Prieta Lookout in Santa Clara County, ran second to Boucher with 386 visitors in the month. Guadalupe Lookout in Mariposa County was the least frequented lookout in the State. This lookout only drew two customers all month, and both of these were on the same day, the 7th of August.

As might be expected, Sunday was the day in the week when most of the visitors showed up. The average state-wide figures by day of the week were as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday | 289 |
| Saturday | 135 |
| Wednesday | 124 |
| Friday | 125 |
| Thursday | 123 |
| Monday | 113 |

On Tuesday there was an average of only 92 visitors in the 62 lookouts reporting or less than 1½ visitors per lookout.

As far as individual days is concerned Boucher again took the prize with 208 visitors on August 8. Every other lookout reporting had at least one day when no one came to the tower.

Paul Cox
Assistant Forest Technician

## DO YOU KNOW?

1. How many National Forests are there in Region 5 of the United States Forest Service?

2. Define a contour line.

3. Is a Coast Redwood a "soft wood"?

4. What is the title of the officer known as the "appointing power" of the Division of Forestry?

5. How many counties are there in the State of California?

6. Is California the first state to have a forestry organization?

7. How many chains are there in one mile?

A new feature is being added to the News Letter entitled "Questions and Answers". Hereafter, each month's publication will contain a set of questions and a set of answers to questions presented you in the News Letter of the past month.

The purpose of this feature of the News Letter is to give employees an added source of general knowledge which may help them gain promotion. The questions will deal with your work and related fields and an attempt will be made to make them of the nature of questions a person might come across in an aptitude test. Your everyday work you are asked questions every now and then which you feel you should know. This is an attempt to help you increase your general knowledge, thereby increasing your own effectiveness and chances of promotion.

We do not pretend to know all the answers and if you doubt the corectness of any answer, do not hesitate to write through channels to the News Letter, % State Forester.

The above set of questions will be answered in the next issue. As there was no set of questions in past issue there are no answers at this time.

POST OFFICE CARRIES FIRE PREVENTION CANCELLATION DIES

The Forest Service completed arrangements a few weeks ago with the U. S. Post Office Department for use of special Forest Fire Prevention cancellation dies on U. S. mail originating in 38 major cities beginning around August 23. A total of 50 separate dies have been purchased with CFFP funds and furnished to the Post Office Department. The dies carry the slogan, "Remember - Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires." This is identical with the tag line used on posters, car cards, and other media throughout the country as part of the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention program sponsored by The Advertising Council, Inc., and conducted by State Foresters and the U.S. Forest Service. The slogan will replace the standard cancellation on postage stamps on letters and postal cards and will be used from date of arrival until close of the fire season around October 30.

The cities have been selected so as to blanket the country. Postal authorities estimate that during the use of these special dies the forest fire prevention message will be imprinted on approximately 40 million pieces of mail a day.

Information Digest

RANGER BILL SAYS:

You can't sell much fire prevention to forest visitors with a lighted cigarette in your mouth.

U.S.F.S. Administrative Digest

DIVISION MEN CONGRATULATED

"Dear Mr. Raymond:

I just want to take this opportunity of telling you what a wonderful first aid job your Mr. Downing and Yee did on the occasion of the tragic automobile accident, which took place near the Los Lomas Ranch on Wednesday, July 28th.

Had it not been for the presence and the alertness of these two fellows I am sure more serious results would have followed in the condition of the three people who survived, the older one being my sister. The young lady, Margery Price, who was fatally injured, was my niece.

I made two trips from Los Angeles to Healdsburg, talked with several people at and near the Los Lomas Ranch and from all reports your boys deserve a great deal of credit in this particular case and I want you and them to know that their fine work is so very much appreciated by the three survivors and myself.

Please express our thanks to these boys, and you and Mr. Glenn should feel very fortunate in having boys like these on your staff.

Very truly yours,

s/ C. A. Carter"

DISTRICT II FIELD TRIP FOR OFFICE STAFF

The girls from District II Headquarters office and the District Warehouse, all six, were recently taken on a field trip by L. T. Petersen, Assistant Deputy State Forester, and Mrs. Petersen. It is thought that "Pete" took his wife along for protection against all of us; however, Mrs. Petersen proved to be one of the gals and we enjoyed her company very much.

We left the district office at 8:00 A.M. and our first stop was the Whitmore CYA Camp. Wally Hunt, Forestry Project Supervisor, took us on a very interesting tour of the camp, showing how the power saws worked, explaining the tree nurseries, automotive equipment and the pole treating process being carried on. Mr. Montgomery, CYA Superintendent, gave a very interesting talk on how the CYA wards are handled.

Next stop was LaTour Spike Camp for lunch. And what a lunch. All of us left the table feeling like we were going to pop at any time, especially "Pete" from the way he lit into the biscuits and honey.

We had a very interesting tour of the spike camp, under the guidance of Mr. LeBel, seeing how things were operated, going through the barracks, and Bert Maupin and Gean Rupert even found some horseshoes to pitch.

Next on the agenda, George Grogan took us on a timber marking trip. This proved quite interesting as all of us had wondered just what the process is. George also showed us how to use an increment borer and Dorthea Freets became quite adept at it. George also explained how to identify "Ips" trees and the process that is gone through to cut timber. After his explanation we felt that if somebody handed us an axe, and of course a power saw, we would really be able to fall a tree.

After our session with George we were off to LaTour Lookout. While there we learned how to spot a fire, use a range finder and so forth. What we really like the best was a little fawn, young enough that it still had spots on its back, that had been

tamed by the lookout.

After touring the lookout we were off to Shingletown Camp to have supper. We arrived at Shingletown Camp dirty and dusty but in high spirits, and of course, starved again. And because looking like a bunch of urchins, we got a few queer looks and remarks from the firefighters. After dinner was over we learned how to operate the pump on a fire truck, or maybe it was a crew truck. After this we went across the highway to Big Wheels Resort and investigated the old steam engine there used in old time logging operations, also the wagons used to haul logs. This was definitely interesting.

After our tour of Shingletown Camp we headed homeward, tired, dirty, and our stomachs full. In other words, a satisfied bunch. We all made it to work the next day, maybe slightly the worse for wear, and were all ready to go on another field trip.

This trip proved to be quite educational and loads of fun, and also makes for a better working relationship between the district office and the field and should happen at least once a month.

And here goes our vote of thanks to Pete from the district office gals for an interesting and educational trip and for being a wonderful guide.

The Girls from District II Headquarters

SLIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT

The following statement appeared in the Monthly Activity Report for August, starting with the last sentence on page 1: "Unfortunately, the warm and dry weather that occurred the latter part of August and into the first part of September has not been accompanied by high winds."

We in the field, have always had reason to believe that our Sacramento counterparts were with us in spirit, but the above statement belies this. We are not sure who wrote the report and the sentence quoted above but believe that the individual was one of the several overhead who spent some time on the El Dorado fires, all of which were of incendiary origin. We wonder if this was a coincidence or if it could bear investigation.

Also, if this publication can be determined an official document it probably will throw future graders of examinations into terror and turmoil, not to mention the applicants.

Placer County is giving even odds that this item will not be accepted for the News Letter and will cover anything up to 10¢.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM TUOLUMNE COUNTY

With fire occurrence temporarily at a low ebb for the past weeks, Tuolumne County Fire Fighters (the term is used loosely, in view of the fire load) have stooped to searching for blazes. False Alarm #4 received a record number of search-hours in the late hours of the night on a recent date. Life must indeed have become a boring existence for the local smoke-eaters.

Like every one else we feel sure our low fire occurrence can be contributed not only to the oceanside breezes of the past weeks, but also to our extensive efforts in

roadside burning, other hazard reduction, and in our fire prevention education campaign.

The lack of fire line hours on Tuolumne County Time Reports does not mean a two-day work week with five days off however. In consideration of high morale being a major requisite in good personnel management, much construction work is being conducted aimed at beautifying the grounds and making more comfortable the living quarters at Sonora, Groveland, and Blanchard Camps. Bus service to the latter named camp, affectionately dubbed "Little Siberia", would greatly enhance its desirability as a place to work.

The Twain Harte Camp, located in the geographical center of the year-around play ground of Piedmont and San Francisco money bags, is already the 29 Palms of Tuolumne County CDF, what with its surroundings of pretty young things, lofty pine trees, a lake to swim in, and pretty young things. Pending acquisition of the site for a permanent camp, to be completed with barracks worthy of the surrounding chalets, will undoubtedly result in much gnashing of teeth in the mouths of those unfortunate fire fighters forced to live in the hovels of Sonora, Groveland, et al.

Recently acquired Keystone Camp is receiving a face lifting. Renovation of a former school house might give the boys bad dreams of past days on the wrong end of a ruler, but promises to provide very comfortable living quarters. Work will progress this winter to increase the flow capacity of the present well and to provide full kitchen facilities and more adequate sleeping quarters. The school house site was deeded to the CDF by Ed Jasper in the name of the Keystone Fire District.

Clinton B. Phillips
Assistant State Forest Ranger

## EXHIBIT ATTRACTS ATTENTION

The Nevada County Fair was held from Thursday, August 26th through Sunday, August 29th. This fair was proclaimed by all to be the best Nevada County Fair ever held. The natural setting in a beautiful grove of pines makes it especially attractive to out of town visitors.

Jim Hayes, Associate Ranger, was in charge of the Division's exhibit in the Fair. With all the favorable comments on our booth it seems that Jim can take a bow. The booth was framed of cedar poles and decorated with pine and fir trees and boughs. We are grateful to the Sacramento Office for the use of the picture panels illustrating Forest Practice. Other panels were prepared showing the various types of trees in this area and their identifying characteristics. A large board with mounted fire tools was also displayed. Of course we had on hand Fire Prevention posters and plenty of material for public distribution.

The 17th Agricultural District Association has at last acquired clear title to 76 acres of a beautiful wooded area and permanent buildings should be present at the 1949 Fair. The planning job will be difficult as the planners are attempting to avoid the sacrifice of any of the stately pines.

Lew Moran
State Forest Ranger

## BILL SHARP FETED ON RETIREMENT

On the evening of August 13 at Lake Vera in Nevada County a party was given in honor of Bill Sharp who retired after 26 years as State Forest Ranger.

Approximately 70 persons attended the party including State Forestry personnel from the Sacramento Office, District III Office, Calaveras County, Amador County, Placer County,

Yuba County, and Nevada County. A spaghetti dinner was served by the ladies of Nevada County.

After the dinner the group gathered in the lodge. Deputy State Forester Dunow recounted the history of the Division and of Bill Sharp's early entry into the Division. The State Forester then described the early days when Bill was Ranger and outlined the growth of the Division. Mr. Nelson then presented Billwith a nice wrist watch given by the group assembled at the party. Allpresent were duly impressed by Bill's gratitude and feeling t oward the group honoring him.

Dancing to the music of the "Night Owls" completed the evenings events. All present said the party was very enjoyable.

We in Nevada County are glad the group enjoyed it. We are happy that the State Forester with part of his staff, and the District III staff contributed so much toward making this party a success.

Lew Moran
State Forest Ranger

DESPITE FIRE FAIR EXHIBIT ERECTED

It was indeed a great accomplishment when Clint Phillips, Assistant Ranger in charge of the project, put the finishing touches on the CDF display for the recent Mother Lode Fair in Tuolumne County. He had had high hopes of such a "Forestry display" - dreamed up in such glowing naturalness. Came the day to assembly - fire! Came the next day - slightly pertrubed, Phillips again tackled the display - immediately, more fire - all day - all night - more fire! Came the opening day of the Fair, still no display. More determined than ever, came Phillips, a stern look on his grim face - a determined pace - there he came, he would not be stopped - in his hand the "by this time" worn and bedraggled little pine twig - on he came. If you had looked closely you would have noted an occasional furtive glance over his shoulder, for he was "fire-conscious", expecting that fire-call every minute - but he was also "Fair-display Determined". Then there was that last tense moment as he mounted the bent little twig on it's pedistal. Ah - he made it ! He wiped his forehead, turned and beamed. Yes he had made it. There it was the Tuolumne County CDF display all complete and in before the Fair Association closed the final gate.

The Tuolumne County CDF offers a vote of appreciation for the efforts of Assistant Ranger Phillips with the able assistance of Assistant Rager Sinclair and the Sonora crew, for the persistent and "owlish" hours spent in putting in the display. It was a credit to the Division.

Ed Minners
State Forest Ranger

"THEN IT HAPPENED"

Associate Ranger Curtis Lindley, the majordomo of Kings County, has during his tenure in that county become very popular with the male residents by his efficient organization of that county's firefighting facilities, and by his dynamic personality and rugged characteristics and interesting stories of the "old days" in Humboldt and Mendocino Counties has been in demand by women's groups as an after dinner speaker. Lindley was beginning to become almost a "must" on any program. Begrudgingly, it must be admitted that Curt and his much publicized feats as the suave almost storybook like Ranger had become

somewhat the envy of our District. But, alas, our Curtis has had to strike his colors and to his constituents in Kings County is now but an ordinary man.

It seems that Curt, due to his close association with his Navy son, had developed a sea-going gait and a salty twang to his speech. So, when the Kings County employees association contemplated a deep sea fishing trip, it was only natural that a bevy of attractive young secretaries should call on our Curt and ask him to go along as chaperone-we presume. In any event, rumor has it that Curt, armed with a fishpole, an approved leave and tucked into son Gene's most nautical attire, boarded the fishing boat to the accompaniment of "ohs" and "ahs" from Kings County's finest. He boxed the compass, oiled the log line and shifted the ballast like a true sailor.

"And Then It Happened"! As the little boat pitched east, our Curtis pitched west, vice versa. As the skies took on a leaden hue, so did our Curtis; and as the little boat heaved ho, so did our Curtis. Finalreports on the expedition were that the catch was light as a suspected saboteur had already fed the little fishes.

So, using the punch line of a popular film, "remember, It Happened To Him--Don't Let It Happen To You."

A Disillusioned Hero Worshipper
District IV

MOUNTAIN HOME HISTORY, CHAPTER IV

Within the boundaries of the Mt. Home Tract are 80 acres of virgin forest owned by Will Gill of Altadena. One of the points of interest at Mt. Home is the "Hercules" tree on the Gill Tract. It appears that Jess Haskins took up his 80 acres as a timber claim. He cut post probably from fallen trees, but he was a nature lover and sold few, if any, of the Giant Sequoia to the mills. After observing a tree, the middle of which had been burned out by fire, he determined to carve out a room in one of them. He chose the largest on his property and was engaged during several summers in the operation. He made souvenirs for vacationers and was a sort of self-appointed guide for the adjoining forest.

This room, which is about 14 feet in diameter, has probably been used as a refuge in a storm but it could not be lived in. The tree, being a live one, causes sap to drip from the ceiling and walls so that the room is damp and musty. The tree is thrifty and apparently the disemboweling operation of 50 years ago has not materially damaged it.

Originally, Mt. Home was the name applied only to Doty's Resort, but it now designates an area known as the Mt. Home Tract of the State Forest system. Entirely surrounded by the Mt. Home Tract is Tulare County's Balch Park, which is a mecca for those interested in a quiet place in which to spend some of the otherwise hot summer days in the San Joaquin Valley.

This is the last Chapter of Mt. Home History which we hope has been of interest to the readers of the Division of Forestry News Letter.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

NEWS FROM DISTRICT IV

The extensive heat wave is over in Kings County and we are enjoying cool fresh air, this is most welcome.

The number of fires in Kings County, totaled 18 for the month of September, all small with the exception of one hay fire valued at $55,000. Fortunately we had no hunter fires and only one roadside fire.

Cotton is the main crop in the county at present, no doubt we will have a number of smallcotton gin fires. A great number of these fires are caused by pickers in the field, cigarettes being carelessly thrown into pickers sacks, then hauled to the gin breaking out in the bale days later. Also, cotton fires are caused in the gin, fire gets in the bale while in the process of ginning. This being a famous agricultural district, people feel the need of fire control, also, show their appreciation, this fact makes the project more attractive as well as interesting.

The Ranger, hasn't been Buck hunting as yet, but, keeps saying what he will do, "WHEN IT RAINS".

We are setting up a small booth at the "New County Fair", also, a truck will stand by in case of fire.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Ranger

DOUG RAFFERTY UNDERGOES FINAL OPERATIONS

We have been advised by Dick Rafferty that his son Douglas over whose illness we were allconcerned underwent his final operation last month in San Francisco. From all indications Doug's recovery should now be complete.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

KINGS COUNTY ACTIVE

Deer hunting season opened in Kings County, August 7th, with a flood of hunters. During the two days' patrolling on the westside of the Valley I found all hunters were on good behavior. No open camp fires were found, however, the deer kill was small. Apparently, most of the deer have moved further west into Monterey and San Benito Counties, due to the shortage of water.

To date we have had 97 fires, including structural. This is 14 less than at the same date last year; also, the damage is approximately one-half the amount as compared to the same date last year. I believe this is largely due to the increased number of fire stations now in Kings County; also, the fire prevention program being inaugurated throughout the State.

We have just received delivery of a new two ton Dodge truck. When this truck is built up it will be stationed in Corcoran.

The Driver just moved into the new station on the westside of the county and is is very proud of his new quarters.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

"THE NEW LOOK"

The theme of the country in general is "the new look" regardless of whether it is women's clothes, automobiles, type of construction, etc., everywhere one goes they read or hear about the new look.

It appears to me that there is plenty of room in the State Division of Forestry to apply the new look particularly insofar as our automotive equipment is concerned.

When I went to work for the U. S. Forest Service back in 1924 their official color for automotive equipment was an olive drab which was apparently forced upon them by the required use of surplus automotive equipment from World War 1. Shortly thereafter they established an official color of forestry green for their automotive equipment. When I went to work for the State Division of Forestry in 1929 the State Forester, Chief Deputy State Forester, and seven Forest Inspectors were the only ones in the organization who were driving State-owned equipment...none of this equipment was painted a designated color. The Rangers supplied their own transportation and received mileage. In 1930 the first firetrucks were bought. These were painted a firetruck red. As the organization continued to expand additional equipment was required and in order to justify the purchase of pickups they must be termed as fire equipment and it was required to place at least a Panama Pump and a tank of at least from 50 to 100 gallons on this equipment. Insofar as this equipment was termed fire equipment, it was naturally painted red. Then when the State started purchasing administrative equipment for the rangers it was decided that this equipment should be painted forestry green and all other equipment painted red.

Now that our organization is becoming more or less streamlined, counties are now divided into assistant ranger districts and an associate ranger or an assistant ranger is an administrative man and I believe his transportation should be in the same category.

It is my opinion a definite color scheme should be established designating all administrative equipment. In order to keep up with "the new look" I believe a two-tone color scheme would be more in line with the times. General Motors have some outstanding two-tone combination. I am driving a State sedan with a brown top and a cream body and with Motorola's conception of a Buck Rogers helmet on the top and our distinguished insignia on the front doors gives it an outstanding appearance. I have been commended by a number of employees of the organization as well as outside individuals on its appearance. My own personal car is a two-tone color with a kelly green top and a lighter green body which is another outstanding two-tone combination.

If nothing else, perhaps a color scheme of this type might improve the appearance of the hybrid "road rollers" now being handed to the Associate Rangers.

It is not my intent to dictate any policies, however, I thought the News Letter would be a good medium to hear comments from others as to my proposals. There is a chance that such comments might be of great value in establishing some sort of a designated color for our equipment.

Some might have the opinion that I am becoming "teched" by living so long within the confines of the artistically inclined Carmel area, however, to be an artist one must be a dreamer. I do not claim to be an artist but I am dreamer enough to visualize a new color scheme is required for our equipment to give it the new look and in order to accomplish this one must visualize with a new look.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger

"SEEN AND HEARD ON THE SANTA CRUZ FIRE"

1st Ranger: Who is that fellow over there, one of Gum's men or a Con?
2nd Ranger: Can't prove it by me.
1st Ranger: Same here, I can't tellGum's men from the Cons.

One Con to Another: Some d_____d Convict swiped my towel.

Fred Dodson won't have to worry about Ranger Wade losing his bearings for lack of oil as he is now noted in District V for continually spreading it on.

Floyd Wakely beaming over the performance of the Monterey transport and Foster Tiltbed. This was the only tiltbed on the fire and accomplished more than any other two pieces of equipment put together on the fire.

That Britton Gang----------!

And Austin's stock pots.
Speaking of Austin's stock pots reminds me of Albertus pouring water into the gasoline tank on the lighting plant in the Big Basin Camp one night about midnight and another party pouring gasoline in one of Austin's stock posts to make coffee. (Wonder why they couldn't get together?) No, the pot hasn't come down yet. Wonder how Hemphill is going to survey it so Austin can justify its replacement!

Pewtherer going over the hill with a reading glass looking for clues. Last reports are that he is satisfied that it was man caused.

Swede Nelson and his convict cap. Heard Lieutenant Evans of the Soledad Prison almost took him in one day as an escapee.

Strick taking down notes in his little black book apparently for reference at the inevitable Board of Review.

Heard Herb Caton was Christianized on the Little Creek Sector. Hallelujah!

Walt Winters and his dirty face and weeks growth. Heard the drains were stopped up in the hospital when the nurses gave him his first bath.

Herman Meyers doing a wonderful job as Laison Officer with the Army....reminded me of an old setting hen with her brood.

Saw several areas burn over from two to three different times on the same ground.

All in all it was a tough job and all overhead are to be commended for their efforts and attitude and I think everyone will agree the Soledad Inmates are an exceptional fire fighting crew.

Anonoymous

DISTRICT VI NEWS

The month of August was high in activity for District VI and not necessarily in the way of fire control, but rather in a series of events effecting the lives of personnel in District VI.

A tired and weary Jack Burke, Associate Ranger, reported to work on the 24th of August with almost insufficient energy to pass out cigars and candy or receive congratulations in honor of the arrival of his son, Jay Allen, 9 lb. 4 oz. born at 4:30 A.M. of that day. Jack has recuperated fully and we understand the mother is doing well also.

Betty Way requisitioned vacation time, which was granted. Later Betty requested an extension on her vacation as she planned to be married. The extension was granted and Betty is now Mrs. John Mazzola.

All this while Norman Harris, Fire Prevention Officer on TAU was sweating out his

appointment awaiting word from the PersonnelBoard regarding the outcome of his examination. Everything comes to he who waits, and Norm waited. His TAU was to expire on August 31, 1948, and on that date at 3:30 P.M. news was received of his eligibility. Later when interviewed, Norm reported that being civil service was conducive to good sleeping. We of District VI headquarters knewhe would make it, confidence reigned supreme. However, we still don't talk about it as Norm always breaks out in a cold sweat when reminded of the orgy.

Now that Jack Burke is a father, Betty is a wife, and Norman Harris is a full fledged civil service Fire Prevention Officer, life in District VI should have resumed its normal pace;however, the atmosphere was agitated by the receipt in the office of a Withholding Exemption Certificate from Emmett Donohur, Assistant Ranger, San Diego County, changing his exemption number from one to two, which indicates that Emmett has taken unto himself a life-time partner. This report is confirmed and should not be deemed official; however, District VI Headquarters wishes to take this opportunity to congratulate Emmett as it was general knowledge that Emmett was contemplating such a step.

VHF Philco radio installations have been effected in District VI consisting of two land stations at La Mesa Headquarters and Riverside District Office with repeaters on Lyons Peak and Cuyamaca Peak -San Diego County, Santiago Peak - Orange-Riverside Counties, and Strawberry Peak - San Bernardino County. Since the recent visit of Mr. Lamb of the State Division of Communications and Mr. Scheimer, the Philco representative, the operation of the FM equipment was greatly improved over previous tests conducted.

Assistant Ranger Wm. T. Meyers, "Bart" as everyone calls him accepted a transfer on August 23 to San Diego County. Bart was formerly assigned to San Bernardino County. Also, on this date Wm. H. Clayton accepted a civil service appointment in San Bernardino County as Assistant Ranger.

May it be known to his many friends and associates throughout the Division of Forestry that on July 31, 1948, Claude K. Barker, Assistant Supervisor, San Bernardino National Forest retired after serving forty years in the field of forest conservation and fire protection. A dinner was given at Joe's Place, Cedar Pines Park on July 27 of this year in honor of Mr. Barker. The guest list of those present included about sixty-five friends from the U.S. Forest Service and Division of Forestry, as well as others.

No doubt Mr. Barker has many fond memories of past years, seeing the field of forest fire protection advance from horse patrol and mule team supply to the modern fast movingera of fire suppression tankers, tractors, aerial observation, radio communications, etc. All his friends and coworkers most certainly join in wishing him many happy years ahead.

As of August 9, 1948, fire occurrence has dropped in San Bernardino County to a total of 45 fires less than in the same period of the 1947 season. As of August 9, 1947, 506 fires has occurred against a total of 461 fires for the same period this year.

It is felt that this reduction of fires no doubt is attributable to two factors; the increased hazard reduction in the field by the Division of Forestry and cooperators together with the stepped up fire prevention program.

This comprises more field inspections by men on patrolas wellas the intensified public relations fire prevention work by the Citizen's Committee and Division personnel

Charles Ulrey
Assistant Ranger

San Diego County

Each morning since June 17 as he came into the La Mesa Headquarters, we have asked "Not Yet?" and Associate Ranger Walter G. "Curly" Francis has sadly shaken his head and replied - "Not Yet!!" But on August 10 at 6:15 A.M. IT HAPPENED !!! And--- it's a boy - 7 pounds and 4 ounces. It seems that the Francis family had decided that Walt, their 2 year old son, should have a sister though, and the names picked out were not very appropriate for such a bouncing boy. However, after much thought was given to the matter, "Carry Dee" was chosen. We wish to call to the attention of the Personnel Board the fact that Cary will surely grow up to be a "Smokeater" - his initials are C.D.F. The middle name "Dee" is after his Grandfather. Any similarity to California Division of Forestry is purely coincidental, according to Mr. Francis.

Leona Minga
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

San Diego County

The past month has seen the following developments in San Diego County:

Another radio high frequency repeater was placed in service on Cuyamaca Peak. It is too soon to tell what coverage this willprovide, but the expectations are high since this is one of the highest and most centrally located peaks in the county. The repeater installed on Lyons Peak a month previous has opened up areas in the South-Eastern section of the County which, up to this time, were total blanks. Several of the mobile units are dual setups with both the low frequency and high frequency equipment. This not only gives a chance for comparison, but provides for better communications should a dead spot be found for one system.

Work on the new Boucher Lookout is well ahead of schedule with completion now seen in the near future. Ground work was started on June 15.

Patrolmen throughout the County report very favorably on the conduct of hunters during the opening weekend of deer season. Apparently all were more fire conscious than ever before, as evidenced by the total lack of hunter fires to this date. We like to think that the "all out" fire prevention drive carried on this year is partially responsi

Leonard R. Chatten
Associate Ranger

Orange County

In working with the public day in and day out, year after year, one certainly notes a variety of public opinion. Some people can be so careless and unconcerned in respect to fire safety while on the other hand, so many people are fire conscious clear to the core. For example, recently one of our Foremen issued a burning permit to a lady to do a little burning of no particular consequence and not in a dangerous area at all. This person took pains to do this burning with extreme care and after the burning was done, mail her copy of the burning permit back to our office with the following note:

"Thanks for the permit. We cleaned off the lot and burned the weeds at 9:00 A.M. - finished up by noon. Thanks".

All in all, it is reported from our Ranger and many of our Assistant Rangers that it appears as the years go by that people in Orange County and Southern California are becoming more fire conscious each year. For example, some of those who would a few years ago feel

that it was just as well to burn over some of our brush areas, today feel that no burning or clearing at all should be done in such areas as they are too valuable for watershed protection and should such clearings or removal of vegetation be adjacent to mountain cabins, then they are afraid of the erosion problem.

Another fact we note is that in some instances our false alarm fires are on the increase, which a few years ago was alarming to us, but in analysing this problem and really tracing it down, the cause of this is a very good indication in many cases, as we find that the more fire conscious people become, the more readily all of them will report a smoke fire to our Forestry station even though the fire in question is not a real one; thus resulting in afalse alarm. On the other hand, a few years ago the same people by not being fire conscious, would not report this type of smoke and thus not nearly as many false alarm fires resulted years ago.

The number of fires we had last fire season, compared to the number thus far this season is approximately a decrease of eighteen per cent, which we attribute principally to the hard work put in by our employees toward fire prevention. Many hours have been put in on hazard reduction, cabin inspections, equipment inspections, prevention, patrol and public contacts. Through the cooperation of service clubs, Chamber of Commerces, and other organizations, many thousands of prevention posters and pamphlets have been distributed. Many prevention programs have been put on and requests are piling up for more every day. All of this work piling up on top of our staff in addition to their normal load of suppression, training, maintenance, and construction projects has not left any slack time. While we still have several months of severe fire season ahead of us, it is gratifying to know that up to date our intensive prevention efforts appears to have paid dividends in the face of a very fast increase of population.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Rager

## REDWOOD THRIVES IN SOUTHEAST

Brought from California during the 1849 gold rush a redwood tree near Mt. Carmel, S.C., has attained a diameter of 38 inches and a height of from 85 to 100 feet during the past 99 years. The tree, an apparently normal example of Sequoia sempervirens, grows on the property of Sen. Lawrence Hester, McCormick county's legislative representative.

C. A. Banks, alumberman in nearby Thompson, Ga., says, "Although this tree is about 3,000 miles from where it was created, it is abeautiful tree and does not look homesick. This may be unusual, in that most authorities agree that redwood trees should have sea fog and willnot do well inland. The Hester tree is about 200 miles from the ocean and seems to be in perfect health."

Forestry News, September, 1948

## CHINOOKS BLAMED FOR FLOOD

Abnormal accumulations of snow, a late spring, then prolonged rain and chinooks were primarily responsible for the disastrous ColumbiaRiver flood according to the report of a group of U. S. Forest Service officials who made a study of the upper Columbia basin in Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia during June.

The flood took more than 40 lives, made 60,000 persons homeless, and caused property damage estimated at considerably over $200,000,000 including serious damage to roads, bridges, telephone lines, and trails essential to efficient forest fire control.

Aiding the weather in causing the flood were excessive snow melt and runoff accelerated by removal of forest cover by fires, grazing, smelter operations, road building, and to a lesser extent by logging operations. Denuded areas lost their snow much more quickly than did forested watersheds, according to members of the party who made aerial observations.

Forestry News, September, 1948

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION MEETS AT CHATTANOOGA IN FALL

The Tennessee Valley has been selected as the locale for the first postwar meeting of the American Forestry Association, it has been announced by W. S. Rosecrans of Los Angeles, California, President of the organization.

Cooperative land management by private enterprises and local, state, and federal governments is the theme of the conference which willhave its headquarters at Chattanooga, Tenn., on October 8, 9, and 10. Field trips are planned to Fontana, Copper Basin, the Tellico Game and Fish Management Area, Cumberland State Park, Horse Shoe Forest, and other points of interest.

Nationally known speakers will keynote the convention theme of cooperative management.

Forestry News, August, 1948

NATIONAL SAF CONVENTION IN BOSTON DECEMBER 16-18

The annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters will be held in Boston, Mass., with headquarters at the Statler Hotel on December 16, 17, and 18, 1948.

D. B.Demeritt, 6 State Street, Bangor, Me., is chairman of the Program Committee.

Harris A. Reynolds, 3 Joy Street, Boston, Mass., is chairman of the Committee on Local Arrangements.

Forestry News, August, 1948

1947 FOREST FIRES WORSE THAN ANY YEAR SINCE 1943

Statistics just released by the U. S. Forest Service reveal that forest fires in 1947 were the worst since 1943 when more than 32 million acres were burned over.

During the last year, 200,799 fires burned over 23,225,932 acres of forest land in the U. S. as compared with 172,278 fires and 20,691,393 acres in 1946. Fire damages in 1947 are estimated at $55,207,648 as compared with $32,694,115 for the previous year. Even on the 543,329,000 acres under organized protection fire losses were greater, burning over 3,132,455 acres as compared with 2,573,930 acres burned in 1946. On the 111,026,000 acres without organized protection 20,093,477 acres were burned at an estimated lossof $30,856,385.

With 81,886,000 acres still needing protection, the eleven southern states again showed the greatest acreage burned. In the South there was a total of 21,006,361 acres burned in 1947 as compared with the 1946 total of 18,204,159 acres. This accounted for more than the entire increase in the area burned over in allthe U. S. One out of every nine acres of forest land in the South was burned in 1947.

Last year's acreage burned figures for the other regions were: Rocky Mountain, 307,798 acres; Pacific, 320,207 acres; Eastern, 773,331 acres; and North Central 818,235

acres. Fire losses were slightly greater than in 1946 in all these regions except the North Central where fire losses were reduced by 495,228 acres.

As in 1946 deliberate incendiarism was again the largest single cause of forest fires. The "cause record" for fires on protected lands for 1947 reads: incendiarists, 23,693; smokers, 17,807; lightning, 6,421; railroads, 4,818; campers, 3,341; lumbering, 1,562; and miscellaneous, 10,429. Significantly, incendiarists caused 4,328 more fires than in 1946 whereas fires from all other causes, except for aslight increase in lumbering fires, were reduced.

The 1947 statistics indicate that forest fire losses are on the rise. It is to be noted, however, that the major portion of our losses could be prevented if all forest lands were under organized protection.

Of the 327,968,000 acres of state and private lands under protection only .86 per cent were burned last year. Of the unprotected state and private lands, 18.1 per cent or nearly one acre out of every five were burned.

Forestry Digest, August, 1948

TWENTY STATES RECEIVE LESS FEDERALFUNDS FOR FIRE CONTROL

Federal allotments to the states for forest fire control for the fiscal year 1949 under the provisions of the Clarke-McNary Act have been released by the U. S.Forest Service.

The federal appropriation is again the full$9,000,000 authorized by the 78th Congress, but due to steadily increasing state expenditures for fire control, particularly in the South, twenty states received less federal money than for the fiscal year 1948. Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Oklahoma, Indiana, Minnesota, and Wisconsin allhad their federal funds reduced. Washington was the heaviest loser with a $166,967 cut closely followed by California and Oregon with reductions of $120,997 and $102,328 respectively.

The greatest increases in allotments as might be expected, were in the eleven southern states where all states except Georgia and Oklahoma received substantial increases. Arkansas, with $95,126 more than for 1948 led allstates getting increases. Missouri, however, was a close second with a $92,089 jump.

Generally speaking, the majority of the Western states and Eastern states lost, while the Southern and Central states gained.

Forestry Digest, August, 1948

WESTERN PINE ASSOCIATION BOOSTS TREE FARM ACREAGE:HEARS THAT SPRUCE BUD-WORM IS SPREADING

Nine new "Tree Farms" totaling 36,342acres were approved by the Western Pine Assn. forest conservation committee in August. The new acreage brings the Association's total up to 145 farms covering 2,613,865 acres.

Ernest L. Kolbe, chief forester for the association, reported that timber of all species throughout the west is growing at a rate unprecedented in forest history. He credited enlightened management policies on the part of western timber owners as a major contributing cause for the accelerated growth rate.

This favorable news was counterbalanced by a report from N. S. Rogers, Oregon

state forester, that the spruce budworm is spreading west of the Cascades for the first time.

The bud-worm has already hit an estimated one million acres of timber in Eastern Oregon, he said. Rogers said the latest outbreak has occurred in timber north of Springfield 100 miles south of Portland.

About 80 per cent of the infested area in Eastern Oregon is federal land and timbermen say a huge aerial spraying program similar to that conducted against the tussock moth in North Idaho last year may be necessary.

The conservation committee approved a resolution commending the Oregon State Board of Forestry for its spruce bud-worm control work and urged that the fight be pressed to a finish.

Forestry Digest, September, 1948

DOUGLAS FIR REGION'S 1947 LUMBER CUT REACHES RECORD MARK OF 8,749,028,000 BOARD FEET

Sawmills in the Douglas fir region cut 8,749,028,000 board feet of lumber during 1947. The record cut was announced by the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, following a mill-by-mill survey of the region's 1505 operating sawmills.

Oregon, with a lumber cut of 5,691,548,000 board feet for the year, led the nation for the tenth straight year. Washington was second with a cut of 3,057,480,000 board feet.

Forestry Digest, September, 1948

NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS PASS 24 MILLION DOLIAR MARK TO SET AN ALL TIME HIGH FOR YEAR

Timber sale revenues brought National Forest receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30 to an alltime high the Forest Service announced this month.

Receipts for the past year totalled $24,122,888.87 an increase of more than 30 per cent over the previous fiscal period.

Timber sale returns were highest from Region 6, which includes Washington and Oregon, with Region 8, including the 11 Southern states south of Virginia, second. Returns from timber sales in Region 6 totalled $9,999,058.77.

Forestry Digest, September, 1948

PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY PRODUCTION REACHES RECORD PEAK DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF '48

Pulp and paper production in the United States reached a new all-time high during the first six months of 1948 with an output for the period valued at $3,043,000,000.

The record figures were announced in the August pulp and paper industry report of the Department of Commerce.

The Commerce report states that the 1948 figure is more than one billion dollars abov that for the first half of 1946 and $234 million higher than for the first six months of last year.

Forestry Digest, September, 1948

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 10 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor October, 1948

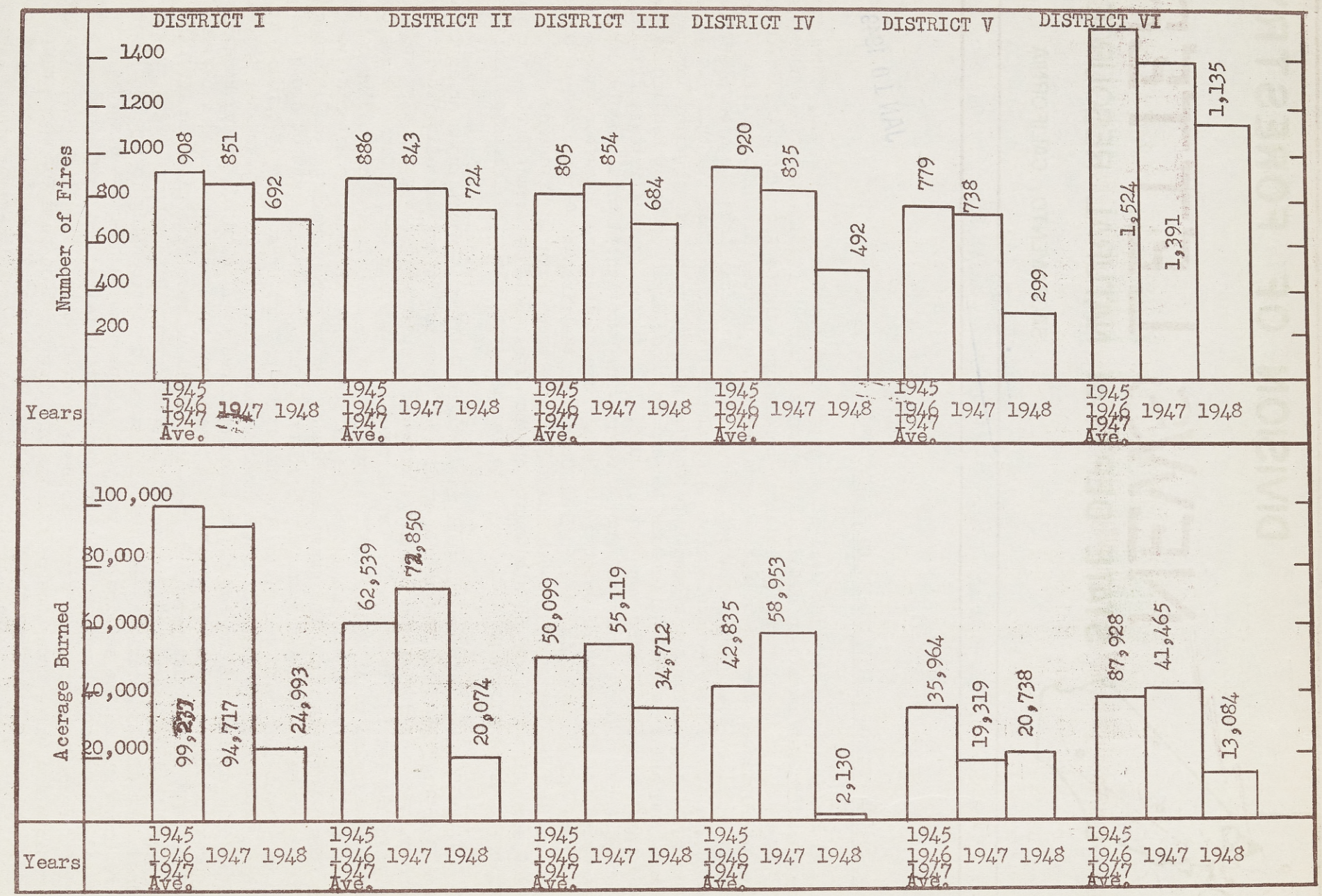
JAN 10 1949

## STATE FORESTER NELSON REPORTS OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Although scattered rains fell in some parts of the State this month, there was at no time a sufficient amount to eliminate the extreme forest fire hazards that prevailed. It will be recalled that extremely critical conditions existed throughout the State until the 16th of September when scattered showers were in evidence, humidities climbed, and temperatures fell. Some northern areas also received rainfall from September 23 to September 25. There were general rains in Northern California from the third to sixth of October and again from the eleventh to fourteenth. With the exception of Northern Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties and in those areas north of Redding in the upper Sacramento Valley, rains were not of sufficient intensity to eliminate fire dangers. As a consequence, a large number of forest fires were experienced totalling 100 more than were recorded for the month of October of 1947. None of the fires, however, exceeded 400 acres. There was one of this size in Lake County on the first of October and a 70 acre timber fire in Yuba County on the 8th and a 300 acre brush fire in Riverside on the 7th and a 100 acre fire in lower Shasta County on the 27th. Notably absent during the month were rains in the southern part of the State in that area below the Tehachapi Mountains.

Although heavy rains again fell in Northern California mountainous areas from the first to fourth of November, hazardous conditions were not in any way alleviated in the southern part of the State. On Thursday, November 4 our most disastrous watershed fire of the year started in the Santa Ana Canyon near the Riverside Orange County lines under extreme Santana wind conditions. The fire was caused by a mattress and bedding catching fire in a trailer drawn behind an automobile, fragments of the burning material being thrown from the highway into the grass and brush. Under the prevailing conditions of 50 to 60 mile per hour winds and extremely low humidities, the initial attack crews were unable to effect immediate control of the several fires set. Under these conditions the fire spread very rapidly over the brush covered mountains. By Friday evening, the wind had materially diminished and control was accomplished by 11 A. M. Saturday, November 6 with approximately 22,000 acres burned. Since weather forecasts indicated a renewal of high winds on Monday, heavy patrol and mop-up operations were maintained on the fire. About 3 A.M. Monday, November 8 Santana winds again struck with renewed vigor and the fire broke out simultaneously in several places. It is interesting to note that where the fire broke was on the section of line that had been mopped up most completely because of its vulnerable nature and where the heaviest patrol was maintained. It was in a cliff section where mop-up crews had been lowered 75 to 150 feet by ropes for mop-up operations and where thousands of gallons of water had been used for mopping up purposes. By noon of that day the fire had again swept many thousands of acres of primary watershed lands. Final and complete control was effected by Wednesday night, November 10 with a total area of some 40,000 acres burned.

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
OCTOBER 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

Every available resource was used on both phases of this fire and included State Division of Forestry, the U. S. Forest Service, County Fire District equipment and personnel, 30 orchard spray rigs for protecting property, some 20 bulldozers, Army, Navy, and Marine personnel and equipment, and many organized volunteer units. The American Red Cross and the Salvation Army gave splendid service. The local sheriff, police, and highway patrol handled the orderly evacuation of Silverado Canyon and maintained very efficent traffic control on all highways. Due to the effective work of the combined forces and equipment, property improvement losses consisted of only several small isolated structures. While the heavily developed Silverado Canyon area was evacuated, the fire was checked at its edge and no losses were suffered. One helicopter was used for reconnaissance purposes, as well as delivering men and supplies to critical sections of the line.

The major loss incurred by this fire was the complete destruction of all cover on about 50% of the Santiago Reservoir drainage area which constitutes Orange County's major watershed. The area of this watershed burned amounted to some 20,000 acres. A survey party is now in the field from the California Forest and Range Experiment Station for the purpose of determining what the potential flood damage may be and what measures can be taken to minimize these dangers. Since most of the soil in this area is of sedimentary origin, it represents some of the most erosive soil that we have in the mountains of this State. It is hoped that through the exercise of Public Law 534 of the Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944, and with some local and State cooperative funds, that it will be possible to reseed about 25,000 acres of the most important area for the purpose of minimizing soil erosion and reservoir siltation. If such cannot be accomplished, it is possible that most of the storage capacity of the Santiago Reservoir will be lost. Both Orange County and the major property owners have indicated their willingness to contribute considerable funds for this purpose. Since reseeding should be accomplished before the Fall rains set in, time is of the essence. At this writing, wind and humidity conditions are still bad, but heavy patrol is being maintained to prevent another outbreak.

On the bright side, however, statistical records show quite a decrease in both number of fires and acreage burned for the period ending October 31. As of that date 4,026 fires were controlled in comparison to 5,512 in 1947, 5,733 in 1946, and 6,218 in 1945. Acreage burned showed a reduction of 227,000 over 1947, 159,000 over 1946, and 404,000 over 1945. It is true that weather has played an important part in this reduction but by no means can it be considered entirely responsible for the reduction. With the exception of the month of October, fire statistics indicate a reduced number of fires over a similar period of last year for every month in the fire season. Most notable are the figures of August and September when historically weather conditions are at their worse as far as the possibilities of forest fires are concerned. In August, for example, 867 fires were reported as against 955 in 1947, 1,048 in 1946, and 1,295 in 1945. September figures are also interesting in that conditions as to wind were much more critical this year than last, yet, there were but 731 fires reported as against 914 in 1947 for the same period, 969 in 1946, and 1,094 in 1945. Comparative figures for the month of October are 380 fires in 1948, 280 in 1947, 557 in 1946, and 617 in 1945.

It is felt by the Division that fire prevention efforts have been helpful in reducing the losses suffered this year to State's resources. While increased attention was being given the educational program by the California Fire Prevention Committee which we organized last year, Division of Forestry personnel were intensifying their hazard reduction and educational programs at the local level. To illustrate accomplishments in these fields the following figures are noted:

In cooperation with the State Division of Highways and land owners we accomplished roadside hazard reduction work along 8,000 miles of roadside right-of-way. Division employees made 1,013 sawmill, 552 dumpground, 756 public area, 279 industrial, and more than 10,000 rural and summer home inspections. They made 3,000 individual inspections

of mechanized equipment that operated in mountain and rural zones, contacted 70,000 people while on fire prevention patrols, and discussed fire prevention with more than 60,000 people through organized group meetings. To caution local people, as well as travelers, in the use of fire field men have made 1,900 press contacts for news stories, 66 radio talks, and 514 contacts to secure radio short announcements. They distributed 16,000 posters, erected 200 large roadside signs, circulated 270,000 leaflets and prepared more than 1,500 displays for store windows and theatre lobbies. Although efforts of the California Fire Prevention Committee have not yet been completely tallied, estimates indicate approximately two hundred million individual contacts in fire prevention have been made through the media of the press, radio, motion picture houses, television, outdoor advertising, posters, leaflets, and the house organs and consumer publications of large industries. It can be emphasized at this time that we have but scratched the surface of this fire prevention educational program and that we intend to intensify efforts just as rapidly as possible.

The Division this month initiated action for subsequent purchase of a part of the new and replacement equipment included in the current year's budget. This action involves the procurement of 22 fire trucks, 20 crew trucks, 11 bulldozers of the D-7 type, and two diesel transport units. Received this month from the manufacturer were some 30 handy-talky radio sets that will be used in the control of forest fires. These units are in the 30 megacycle band and have an effective range, depending upon terraine, from one to four miles.

Experimentation and testing continued this month in the radio field in an attempt to alleviate certain interference difficulties that have been experienced during the fire season.

During the month, more than 60 miles of telephone lines have been constructed in District II, 30 in District IV, 20 in District V, and 20 in District I. Surveys have been completed on 15 miles of road in District II and 6 miles in District IV.

The Lassen County ranger office and residence has been started this month as has the ranger office at the Nevada City Headquarters in Nevada County. Mt. Oso Lookout in Stanislaus County is entirely completed.

Bids were received during the month, all of which were within the limits of available funds, for the erection of equipment storage and warehouse buildings at Hopland, Mendocino County, West Los Banos, Merced County, and Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County. To be used for necessary road construction work, the Division this month, transported from Hawthorne, Nevada, 100,000 pounds of explosives.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. Does an owner of private land within a National Forest secure his permit for a control burn from the nearest Federal Ranger?

2. How many State Forests are there in California presently and can you name them?

3. How many Divisions are there in the Department of Natural Resources and can you name them?

4. When a lookout gives a reading on a fire to the dispatcher, is it a bearing or an azimuth?

5. Is a man-caused fire within the boundaries of a National Forest called a "fire trespass"?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF NEWS LETTER

1. Presently there are 18 National Forests in Region 5 of the United States Forest Service.

2. A contour line may be defined as a line, all points of which have the same elevation and is used on a map to indicate topography.

3. A Coast Redwood (Sequoia sempervirens) is a "soft wood". The term soft wood applies generally to coniferous trees. The term "hard wood" applies generally to broad leaf species.

4. The title of the officer known as the "appointing power" of the Division is the Director of the Natural Resources. The Director delegates much of his authority as appointing power on to the State Forester.

5. There are 58 counties in the State of California.

6. California is the first State to have a Forestry organization.

7. There are 80 chains in a mile. A section is 80 chains on every side.

NEWS FROM A RETIRED FRIEND

"Retirement from active service has its good points. One of these is the letters you receive from friends. I have received forty-five of them from you fellows and they are all placed in a leather bound notebook cover where I can keep them indefinitely. I have read each of these letters several times already. I shall read them again and again in the future particularly on rainy winter days when I can sit back and reminisce about times spent in the past with each of you. The recollections will be pleasant ones, I assure you. It is a source of gratification to know that I have so many fine friends in the State Division of Forestry. I esteem that friendship very much. If I helped you some in your jobs, you also helped me. So we are even on that score. I have looked you up many times. Now when the opportunity offers, I hope you will look me up at my home here in Albany. Best of luck and success to all of you.

Sincerely
s/C. R. Tillotson
1136 Evelyn Avenue
Albany 6, California"

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM CALAVERAS COUNTY

Members of the fire control group in Calaveras County are contemplating with some apprehension their new duties of switchboard operator. The San Andreas Headquarters office has been brought more up to date with a new telephone switchboard and an array of 54 switches proved somewhat disconcerting at first inspection. However, Clerks Mary Serra and Solveig Pfeiffer seem to have the situation well in hand and are passing on their knack of handling the two trunk lines and seven extensions. The new board is definitely a forward step in improving our telephone communications and we are extremely pleased with its performance. The new unit is exemplary of the fact, too, the P.T. & T. isn't resting on its laurels but is constantly improving its equipment.

Local nimrods who are referring to 1948 as a successful year are Foreman Andy Lavagnino, Fred Day, and Clarence Dormody, and Assistant Ranger Jack Jackson. Assistant

Ranger Herb Caton and Ranger Jim Fenlon each got at least one shot that we know of, but all Equipment Operator Foster Vernon got was the feel of his rifle. "Brad" Bradford, our new Associate, spent the deer season merely hunting fires and in this he proved moderately successful.

Two of our cooks waded into the recent examination and we are wishing them luck on the outcome. Emile Autrand hails from Jamestown in Tuolumne County. He has been cooking at our Murphys Station. The Altaville cook, "Nat" Egan, isn't far from home. The station is located in his home town of Angels Camp. Nat has the distinction of being the only cook to remain with us this entire season, a particularly noteworthy achievement in view of the fact his foreman is Andy Lavagnino, a real taskmaster.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

SUGGESTS NAMING OF LOOKOUT FOR TILLOTSON

We all are familiar by this time with the recent retirement of C. R. Tillotson which became effective this summer. I know that all who knew Tillie will feel as I do that we owe a great deal to him for his interest in our organization over the past several years and for his part in having brought our organization up to its present standards. Although he was technically on the pay roll of the U. S. Forest Service, I believe that many of us felt that he actually was more a part of our organization than that of the U. S. Forest Service.

In checking the names of lookouts I find such unimaginative names as Lone Pine, Pine Hill, Wolf Creek, Bear Mountain, and Little Mountain. Then we run the gauntlet of colors with Bald Mountain, Black Mountain, Green Mountain, Blue Ridge, Red Top, Copper Peak, and Red Mountain. Then, of course, there are the colorful names of Gualala, Iaqua Butte, Grasshopper, Bullychoop, Penon Blanca, Joaquin Rocks, and Pattymocus.

Although I do not know if there are any plans in the offing for the establishment of any new lookouts I would like to suggest that if there are any new sites intended that consideration be given to naming one for our friend Tillie. Or, if no new ones are in the immediate future, that some thought be given to renaming one of those mentioned above. I think that if this is done that the lookout selected should be one which has a coverage over Zones I and II, naturally. If it cannot be decided which lookout is to be considered for this naming, may we suggest that in Placer County we have an excellent site for a new lookout which we would be very happy to have considered.

I feel that we owe Tillie a great deal and that the naming or renaming of a lookout covering the Clarke-McNary area would be most fitting and proper.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

FIELD DAY WELL ATTENDED

On Wednesday, October 20, the Soil Conservation District of Nevada County held a Field Day or Demonstration Day. The Walter Gage ranch 3 miles west of Grass Valley was chosen for the demonstration as it contained all the land features necessary for a complete field day.

The property was divided into several units and conservation practices were demonstrated on each unit. Unit number one was a second growth plot where a Farm Forestry Demonstration was put on by our Division. Bill Maguire, Farm Forester for

District III, addressed the gathering and explained tree marking, products harvested, and other aspects of proper second growth management.

As a part of the forestry demonstration, fence posts were treated with pentachlorophenol to make them resistant to decay. Earl Bowe of the Wood Treating Chemical Company and Mr. Ryan of the Pacific Oil and Grease Company put on this part of the demonstration.

The crowd was estimated at about 800 people and it is believed that many farmers now have a better appreciation of the economics involved in the management of their "tree" crops.

Lew Moran
State Forest Ranger

WHAT'S NEW IN KINGS COUNTY

1. The cotton harvest is at its peak in Kings County, this causes a great influx of transient labor, in this area which in turn means we are having an average of one fire call a day. Most of these fires are small such as cotton, trailers, small tent houses and warming fires being left unattended causing fire to spread into dry sloughs.

2. We have just completed "20,000 BRICK" to be used this winter in constructing new fire stations. We plan to complete a combination fire house and living quarters at Hall's Corner, also, an office and Ranger's house at Headquarters. All of the work is being done by the County employees and prisoners from the County jail.

3. A meeting was held in Madera, November 8th consisting of field personnel, the discussions and planning was most satisfactory.

4. Everyone is watching the skies these days and doing a lot of praying, but not a drop of rain. The water table is getting lower day by day, in fact, the situation is not very bright.

5. New hydrants are being installed in some of the outlying tracts adjacent to the City of Hanford, this eliminates the hauling of water from the City of Hanford, to suppress a fire just outside the City limits. This is a most satisfactory and progressive arrangement.

6. "WITH THE BEST OF LUCK TO THE BOYS IN THE SOUTH, WHO ARE NOW HAVING A CHAIN OF SERIOUS FIRES".

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

FROM FRESNO COUNTY WE HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING NEWS

FRESNO COUNTY IS FIRST AGAIN! The first lost deer hunter of the year, ( Division of Forestry employee, that is), has been found and is back on duty. Bob Hebrard, Fresno County fire truck driver, became separated from his hunting companion in the wild Coolidge Meadows area of the Sierra National Forest and spent a very uncomfortable night wandering up and down the Kings River Canyon. It is claimed that his teeth tap danced all night long, the temperature dropping to around 20 degrees that night. Fire conscious Bob would not build a fire during the night, (no permit). Four of his fellow workers started a search for him in the middle of the night and were supplemented by an additional four the

following morning. Bob found his way back to camp the next morning, teeth still chattering. He has now been restricted to Zone 3.

Gerald L. McCarty, Fresno Headquarters Foreman, recently joined the ranks of happily married men. He would now like to see the fire season end, seems that he wants to spend more than forty-eight hours a week at home.

The Fresno County Fair, the first since before the war, is over. The Division of Forestry had a fine display which was visited by thousands of people. We are already planning a larger and better display for next year. Horse racing was one of the major attractions of the Fair and it is rumored that a certain foreman being attracted to the two dollar window, did quite well for himself and the ranger received a liberal education too.

We are expecting a flood of applicants for transfer to Fresno County as soon as the 1948 fire statistics for the State are made available through the News Letter. Why! Only 17 fires for a total of 83 acres burned in the State protection area.

N. O. Stephens, Assistant Ranger in Fresno County for years, and years, and years, has been transferred to the Raymond District in Madera County. Good luck, Steve, in your new location.

The recent Range Improvement burns in Fresno County have been seeded and we are all waiting patiently for results, the reason, it rained during the seeding and should produce quick results. Whose hat was contributed to the cause!

We are fortunate in having among the fire fighters a sign painter of no little ability, at the present writing signs have been made for the District Office, District Warehouse, County Headquarters and all of our fire control stations. We bow to "The Old Man of the Mt., Bruce Hufford" for "insisting" that we accept this man's transfer.

The new Hurley Fire Control Station is being rushed to completion, it is being constructed entirely of concrete blocks and will rank with any station for beauty. The kitchen wing is about one-half completed and ground has been leveled for the garage and gas house. Gone from Fresno County are the days of the cook and sleeping tents.

Two new GMC fire trucks and one new Dodge crew truck have been received and put in service. They are beautiful and practical pieces of equipment and should give years of excellent service.

Ranger A. Roy Bengard, is anxiously awaiting the go signal for construction of the new Fresno County Headquarters near the City of Sanger. Five acres of vineyard will have to be removed to make way for the station. We are willing to bet that the grapes, a full arms length outside the fence, never reach maturity.

Ray Higgins
Associate Ranger

FROM SAN BENITO COUNTY

All was great hustle and bustle in San Benito County for the past week. San Benito County was holding it's annual County Fair. The Division of Forestry was invited to be an exhibitor and there was a general hurry and scurry to find material and supplies to build a booth. It's all over now and the boys are all sitting around with self-satisfied smirks on their faces. The reason? Well it all goes back to the beginning of the season.

When fire season first started and fire fighters began to arrive, we laid out a garden and planted squash, peas, watermelons, cucumbers and many other things so as to help out our meal cost. We ran into quite a few little quirks and twists, but gradually there evolved quite a garden. Of course, with 51 cucumber hills there was quite a surplus of cukes, but soon we had every crock and jar filled with pickles, pickles, and more pickles, both sweet and dill. Then, came the fair.

Under the capable hands of Foreman Bob Clark a very nice little booth was constructed. We entered our squash, melons, cucumbers, and pickles, although we didn't have the right size jars for our pickles, and we couldn't enter our produce for money as we didn't enter before the final filing date, but we entered and we sat back to wait.

Well our booth was quite an attraction as it showed movies continuously for three days from 10:30 A.M. till midnight. On the final day we found we had shown our booth to 5,500 people and our Hubbard squash had taken 1st prize, our pickles also were judged to be 1st prize, but we didn't receive a ribbon because we used the wrong size jars. Incidentally, the pickles were put up by our very capable cook Mrs. Sadie Bailey, who has been with the Forestry for several years. Our garden was planted and cared for by "Nick Becker," Forest Firefighter, who has been with the Forestry for the past three seasons.

The 1st place blue ribbon now reposes on the office wall at Hollister for all to admire. You all have our cordial invitation to come and look at it. I don't believe finance will allow travel expenses though.

Forest Technician Lee Burcham is experimenting with a brush control project in San Benito County. He has working with him State Forest Ranger John P. Wade, Assistant Forest Technician John Dowakin, Assistant Farm Advisor Paul Pattingale, Forestry Engineer John Otter, Forest Technician Herman Myers, and many others.

John P. Wade
State Forest Ranger

A REPLY TO RANGER AUSTIN'S ARTICLE IN LAST MONTH'S NEWS LETTER

Have been reading last month's News Letter and was very much interested in Ranger Austin's letter regarding "The New Look," in automotive equipment. He certainly gave all of us something to think about, but I believe, we could go further with his thought. Ranger Austin's county is one that exemplifies just how mixed up the color scheme can be. He has a yellow Ford, a black and red Dodge, a two tone green Chevrolet, and a dark green Chevrolet, assigned to his Assistant Ranger. He drives a two tone green sedan and his associate drives a glaring red Dodge. Here in San Benito County we have a tractor man driving a yellow Ford, a vegetable man driving a black and red Dodge, a garbage man driving a two tone green Chevrolet, and a local turkey grower hauls feed in a green Chevrolet. The town banker drives a two tone Chevrolet, and one of the prune growers here drives a glaring red Dodge. This same holds true in every county. San Benito County also has black, red, and green pickups. Thank goodness we don't have any yellow ones. I hold with Ranger Austin when he speaks of two tone color schemes, but in an organization such as ours, which is a law enforcement agency and also semi-militant, I think that all cars should be the same color even though they be two tone. Certainly the California Highway Patrol, which is also a law enforcement agency plus being semi-militant, has a distinctive two tone automobile. I believe that if we would follow the example set by the Highway Patrol our organization would be more respected and looked to. I believe that a very good color would be green and white with the State seal on the doors as usual.

Ranger Austin also speaks of the Assistant Ranger and Associate being used as administrative men in the district. This is true, and I believe, that they should be entitled to administrative type vehicles. It's certainly disturbing to dress up in our idea of a uniform and climb into a pickup to go to a meeting or gathering and upon alighting from the pickup find your "Pinks" all smeared with diesel fuel left there when you last hauled diesel to such and such a tractor.

Of course this brings up uniforms and this News Letter would be very heavy if it contained all the ideas of uniforms that have been brought to our attention. Ranger Brittons men are about the most uniformily garbed men in our district and I believe their green uniforms to be very striking. Ranger Austin started the ball rolling and maybe through the medium of the News Letter we can all get together and decide an issue which has been talked to death.

San Benito County has started work on the two new fire control camps located at Bluejay Splash and Bear Valley. The wells have been dug although we are having a little trouble getting water in one of them. Both of these camps will be on our own property and will replace camps which have been rented from year to year.

Construction has also been started on the four bay garage at Panoche and this should be fimished in about four months. The new warehouse addition at Hollister is well under way and over 40 yards of concrete have already been poured. When finished this will give us a two story garage and warehouse housing four more autos and about 900 Sq. ft. of floor space for warehouse storage.

Ranger Wade is also the proud possessor of a brand "spanking" new 1948 Ford Sedan. The writer went for one last ride with Ranger Wade before he turned in his old Ford (1941). We went out to the well site at Bluejay Splash which is some forty miles away. We left at night and, "what a trip". The county "out that" just abounds with wild life. Going out we were very careful, but what with animals diving at the lights it wasn't long before we ran over a wild cat. Then there was a rabbit and another and so on. To top it all on the way back I spied a skunk ambling along and called for Ranger Wade to "hold it". He slowed down and ran over the skunk very slowly. Are we glad he got a new car.

John P. Wade
State Forest Ranger

HAPPENINGS IN DISTRICT IV

N. O. Stephens, formerly Assistant Ranger in Fresno County, has recently been transferred to Madera County. Stephens is at present in charge of the Raymond District where he now resides. He has 14 years with the C.D.F.

Harvey Striplin, U. C. forestry graduate of the class of '48, is now working as Dispatcher in Madera County. He was formerly in Santa Cruz County and was transferred to District IV at the termination of summer dispatcher positions in that district.

Ed Gutowski, Assistant Ranger now working in Fresno County, was reinstated after taking advantage of GI training. He attended a fire training school after leaving the military service. Before entering the service he was located in Kern County as an Assistant Ranger and now upon his return he is in charge of the Westside of Fresno County under the direction of Norman Nicholson, Associate Ranger in Coalinga.

Merced County's record of area burned this year is really something to point out. The average year's acreage burned is several thousand, but this year so far it is only .6 acres! Maybe that's just the lull before the storm, but anyway, we know that the storm can't come until next year!

Everyone in the District was suddenly amazed to learn of the sharp increase in offspring in Mariposa County recently, but our amazement was as quickly dampened when we learned that the family increase was only that Bruce Hufford's sow had a litter of little pigs!

Don Knowlton
Associate Ranger

HAPPENGINS IN DISTRICT V

Recently Johnnie Wade, Ranger of San Benito County, had a Junior size Ford presented to him by the Division to take the place of his 1940 V-8. Needless to say, Wade is having the time of his life with the various new gadgets on the instrument panel. It is understood that as soon as he masters this training model, the State will supply him with the regular 8 cylinder model.

J. E. Sindel
Associate State Forest Ranger

In looking over the last copy of the American Legion Magazine, I came across a picture of "our Dick" shaking hands with the National Commander of the Legion.

Needless to tell you, folks, it must have been a hard job for the photographer to get this picture as Richard is noted throughout the Division for his camera shyness plus being adverse to any newspaper publicity. I wonder how they tricked such an intrepid warrior into getting the picture?

Editor
P.U. Press

During the Santa Cruz fire, two "former employees" of the State Division of Forestry, one a cook and the other a truck driver, took a moonlight requisition on the Big Creek fire camp's grocery supply.

Moving said groceries to their home near Sacramento, the writer in company with R. A. "Mumps" Taylor and W. H. "Match Book" Fairbanks descended upon said home. Articles found that belong to C.D.F. resembled a cross between a "Lucky Grocery Store" and "Uncle Joe's Hock Shop". Needless to say it was necessary to press into service one Don Bennetts and his station wagon to transport the stolen articles.

It is hardly necessary to say that Justice of the Peace Dean of Santa Cruz Township was not impressed with the story told by the defendants. They are now spending their time at County expense in Santa Cruz County's most modern jail.

Moral: When you "Bring home the groceries" be sure they are not someone else's groceries.

Mace Pewtherer
Fire Prevention Officer

FROM SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

On September 16th the San Luis Obispo County Fair opened at Paso Robles and ran through the 20th of September. It was estimated that a total of 30,000 people were in attendance at the fair (dogs were not counted).

Prior to the opening of the fair, the local chapter of the State Division of Forestry were busily engrossed in assembling everything they possibly could which would be adaptable to their display and finally ended up with a collection of pine boughs, pine cones, an approved type spark arrester plus a drawing showing the integral workings of said arrester, colored slides, slide projector, and, as an additional drawing attraction, a collection of game birds (chuckers, quail and pheasants). The birds were secured from the Division of Fish & Game whom we certainly owe a vote of thanks, as the birds proved to be a very good drawing card to catch the roving eye of the fair-goers. The above mentioned objects, plus a few more items, were arranged in a very tasteful manner in a booth assigned us by the Fair Committee. Associate Ranger Nash-Boulden, Assistant Ranger Lester Lopez, and Foreman Jim Cantrell and Mervyn McEvoy were the interior decorators in charge. The booth proved to be of much interest to the general public and also, apparently, to the Judges who presented the boys with a Special Award Ribbon, of which they were justly proud.

One of the hi-lights of the fair was an occurrence on one of the days when young Jim Cantrell was the exhibitor in charge. Mr. Cantrell was busily showing slides and giving out information on the fire prevention activities of the Division of Forestry when he was rudely interrupted by one of his interested audience. She sharply commented, indicating the cigarette dangling from Jim's mouth, that she didn't believe that smoking a cigarette in the forest was quite the thing to do, apparently having come to the conclusion that the booth was a closed area. Mr. Cantrell, needless to say, turned a fiery red, hastily extinguished the offending cigarette, and continued his discourse, somewhat on the embarrassed side. Which really goes to show that at least a portion of the people in that area have taken the fire prevention lessons we have tri to teach to heart. During the course of the fair, we were able to distribute in the neighborhood of 10,000 pamphlets dealing with fire prevention, so hope the recipients of these pamphlets took as much interest in them as the aforementioned lady.

San Luis Obispo Headquarters Office

We certainly owe a vote of thanks for the hearty cooperation that we received from the San Luis Obispo County Tax Collector, Mr. Joe Barrett, who distributed through his mailing list approximately 20,000 fire prevention blotters and pamphlets, reaching every person owning property in San Luis Obispo County, wheresoever disbursed around the globe. Mr. Barrett has informed/me that he has received many, many letters from all over the United States endorsing his aid in the distribution of this material and assisting us in keeping California "Green and Golden".

A. O. Gossett, State Ranger

FROM DISTRICT VI

The first day of Fall ushered forth weather typical and District VI is hoping for a pleasant finish to one of the most successful fire seasons in District VI fire history. Preparedness is the first word and we shall endeavor to maintain this wonderful record.

The big Ojai fire in Ventura County saw seven of our units with overhead abeting in the suffocation of this disaster. These units were from Orange, Riverside, and

San Bernardino Counties with San Diego fortifying the home fronts wherever necessary.

NEWS FROM RAINBOW C A A CAMP, DISTRICT VI

"There's Something Fishy About All This"

Rainbow Camp, located in a plateau, between the communities of Fallbrook and Temecula, in District VI San Diego County, is essentially a Forestry Fire Suppression Camp during the fire season. It celebrated its second birthday in August of this year. The celebration being rather unique for occasions such as this because of the lack of anything harder than strong black coffee to ripen the joyous mood. For other than the Forestry Personnel, and the Camp Supervisors of the Department of Corrections, this Camp is made up wholly of inmate labor from the California Institution for Men at Chino, California working in agreement with the California Division of Forestry.

While not engaged in combating the numerous fire hazards in the four counties of San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange to which this Camp is subject to call, different work projects are accomplished within the Division's Program. Such duties as clearing fire breaks, brushing telephone lines, roads, etc; even recently doing a good deal of work in the construction of the new lookout tower on Boucher Hill which lies in the same range of mountains that include the famous Mt. Palomar Observatory and the world's largest telescope.

Early in the month of September, a different type of assignment was given the men of Rainbow. A serious emergency existed at the vacation resort of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County. This emergency was a phenomena of nature, wherein countless thousands of fish in the lake died and their bodies littered the surface of the water and surrounding beaches. The odor had become almost unbearable and the nearby residents demanded action.

Although somewhat different from their usual duties, the men of Rainbow jumped at the opportunity to help remove the dead fish from the lake. A special detail of 50 men under the Supervision of Forestry Work Project Supervisor C. A. Brown, Foreman Bill Haley, Foreman L. E. Parks, Foreman Fred Franklin, and Drivers Rowland and MacMichael of the Division of Forestry were dispatched to the scene.

During the course of the preceeding three days they worked long and hard under very trying conditions. A majority of the men had upset stomachs all during this period. In many instances it was necessary to wade into the water up to the chin, and many bad cases of sunburn resulted. Not a word of complaint was heard and the fine spirit of the men and their cooperation was evident throughout the assignment. At the end of the third day, all of the badly decomposed fish were removed and buried. A final analysis showed more than 1800 ton of dead fish were disposed of.

The men of Rainbow deserve a great deal of the credit, and their attitude reflects credit on the Division as a whole. Even now, more than two weeks after the ordeal, with the men back once again, in the thick of a torrid fire season, one can hear comments and jokes passed around about the Big Fish Story of the Year.

C. A. Brown
Forestry Work Project Supervisor

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, DISTRICT VI

Officially announced!

Congratulations are in order for Assistant Ranger Emmett R. Donohue and his bride

who was Miss Zoe Ann Strickler before their marriage the latter part of August. We all wish to offer our very best wishes for a long and happy life together. Mr. Donohue is an Assistant Ranger in charge of District Seven in San Diego County with headquarters at the Red Mountain Station near Fallbrook.

Belated congratulations (at last) are also in order for our Julian Forest Firetruck Driver of long standing Clyde R. "Pete" McGregor. The bride was Miss Rosie Berchel of Julian. Both are singularly happy now, they have a collie pup!

Leona Minga
Intermediate Clerk

Taking a squint through the sume and haze of this summer day at our project of getting the upper hand with the beetles this winter, we see and forecast a great deal of work. On a recent survey by Ye Old "Buggers" Rice, Hastings, Schori, and Engen, U.S.B. of E. & P.Q, the fades showed bright yellow in the Julian area, North Peak and a few in Cuyamaca State Park. The greatest threat to our evergreens lies in Boulder Creek on the Marston Ranch. This rancer has one thought in mind, that is to cut all pines and oaks and make pasture. His trees are infected on the average of eight tops per acre.

Most of the old hands will be on call again this winter to tear at 'em. This winter the procedure will follow the previous pattern with more emphasis on getting all trees down on the ground properly cleaned and most of all, a complete working over of all equipment and camp sites.

The continued drought has caused the little "Bugs" to continue their family life with greatest exuberance, emerging, drifting away to another weakened and disease tree to brood anew.

Summing up the situation, it shows a vast decrease in last year's infestation throughout the entire area. The percentage of infestation is at least one half of last years, thus proving that all the labor put in last winter was to some avail.

Guy A. Konnersman
Assistant State Forest Ranger

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, DISTRICT VI

Flash! The stork recently added a new firefighter to the Riverside County crew, Thomas Earl Belcher, born September 16, 1948, at the Riverside Community Hospital. The new man's proud father is our CDF Driver at Blythe Air Base. Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Belcher.

Speaking of blessed events, Riverside County has just been able to retire several of our most ancient pieces of pumping, as they have been replaced by a new GMC tanker and a Dodge crew truck. Both units are now in service and doing quite well.

Assistant Ranger Harvey French and his crew from Elsinore have recently started on the County's largest project; namely, the moving of some 6200 cubic yards of fill dirt to the present Elsinore site in preparation for the construction of the proposed new station. Working at top speed with his present crew and equipment, Harvey calculates it will take some five months or better to complete the fill work. After the fill is in, several hundred feet of retaining walls must be constructed prior to starting the new buildings.

The construction business down this way has been in full swing for the past eight or nine months and it looks as though the tempo will be even greater during the next year or two. A present the walls of the new Sunnymead Station are on their way up but

the fellows still have some nine thousand concrete blocks to lay up before they are through.

Deane L. Bennett
Assistant State Forest Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, DISTRICT VI

HATS OFF TO CHARLIE ENNIS

From the lookout's standpoint, 1948 should go down in Forestry history as a memorable year with the "New Look" towers that are being constructed in various parts of California. The most outstanding feature of the Boucher Hill lookout is the octagonal shape cab (observation roof to you) with its colored plate glass- solex - windows. This soft bluish coloring eliminates all sun glare and reflects it, affording 40% better visibility. And, to delight the heart of the spouse there is a white enamel refrigerator, sink, drain board, and electric stove.

The floor below the cab boasts a much needed bath with ample space remaining for a bed and chest of drawers and being walled off from the stairs, provides desired privacy for the occupant. Two windows give excellent ventilation and light.

The south wing, or room below this, is well constructed for a pool room, badminton, or what-have-you - 16 sq. ft. of good substantial space to be used as your heart desires. The ground floor is the answer to any man's dream of a garage with ample space to accommodate the Rollys-Royce(?). IT IS TRULY A LOOKOUT MAN'S DREAM COME TRUE.

Mr. Ennis advises yours truly it had been a dream of his for many years to design and build an improve type of tower. The Division can well be proud that Mr. Ennis's dream has materialized.

Claude E. Huse
Forest Fire Lookout

FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

AMERICAN FORESTERS MEET IN BOSTON IN DECEMBER

The annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters will be held December 16-18 in Boston, Mass., at the Statler Hotel. More than 500 are expected to attend.

President of the Society Clyde S. Martin of Tacoma, Wash., announces the meeting will open with individual sessions of the Society's nine divisions having to do with private forestry, forest economics, forest recreation, forest products, forestry education, wildlife management, range management, silviculture, and public relations.

Forestry Digest, October, 1948

NEW METHOD FOR DRYING PINE

A solvent method for drying pine lumber may soon prove to be an important Western source of turpentine, resin acids, fatty acids, pine oil and plant sterols.

Forestry Digest, October, 1948

INDUSTRY PAYS MAJOR SHARE FOR FIRE PROTECTION IN OREGON-WASHINGTON

Timber industries in Washington and Oregon spent $3,696,767 for direct forest fire protection during 1947. The expenditure was the highest on record, W. D. Hagenstein, forest engineer for the West Coast Lumbermen's Association and the Pacific Northwest Loggers Association announced.

Counting expenditures made by the two state governments, the fire protection costs for the year in Washington and Oregon totalled $6,265,602.

Hagenstein cited industry's own record, emphasizing expenditures within the "Tree Farm" program which approached 25 to 30 cents an acre annually.

While national figures on 1947 forest fires showed an alarming increase in both numbers and acreage burned, the Oregon-Washington field of industry-state cooperation held fire loss to very low figures.

In 1947 the two states reported 2146 fires on non-federal lands as compared to 2056 in 1946. The acreage burned in 1947 was 16,443 as compared to 20,486 in 1946.

Hagenstein said the more than three and one-half million dollars industry spent for forest fire protection did not include another half million paid by land owners as assessments to private fire protective associations or funds paid to the states for protection of private lands.

Forestry Digest, October, 1948

LOUISIANA IS TWENTY-FOURTH STATE TO JOIN KEEP GREEN

Louisiana became the twenty-fourth state to join the national "Keep Green" program September 7. The action was taken by the Louisiana Forestry Association. The campaign against forest fires will get underway this Fall.

John B. Ferran, executive secretary of the association, said a gigantic state-wide campaign will be staged.

The "Keep Green" program was approved at a meeting held in Alexandria. The association also approved a plan to publish a monthly forestry journal.

Forestry Digest, October, 1948



DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

Vol. 7 No. 11 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor November, 1948

## HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL

Another year has rolled around. It has been an interesting and challenging year with new problems, new accomplishments, and new opportunities. Strides have been made in practicall every field of activity. We also had our heartbreaks in two critical fires.

To all the men and women of the Division I want to express my appreciation for your fine work and your spirit of loyalty and cooperation. To each of you Mrs. Nelson and I want to wish a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester

The Sacramento office joins the Nelsons in extending best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season to all field personnel.

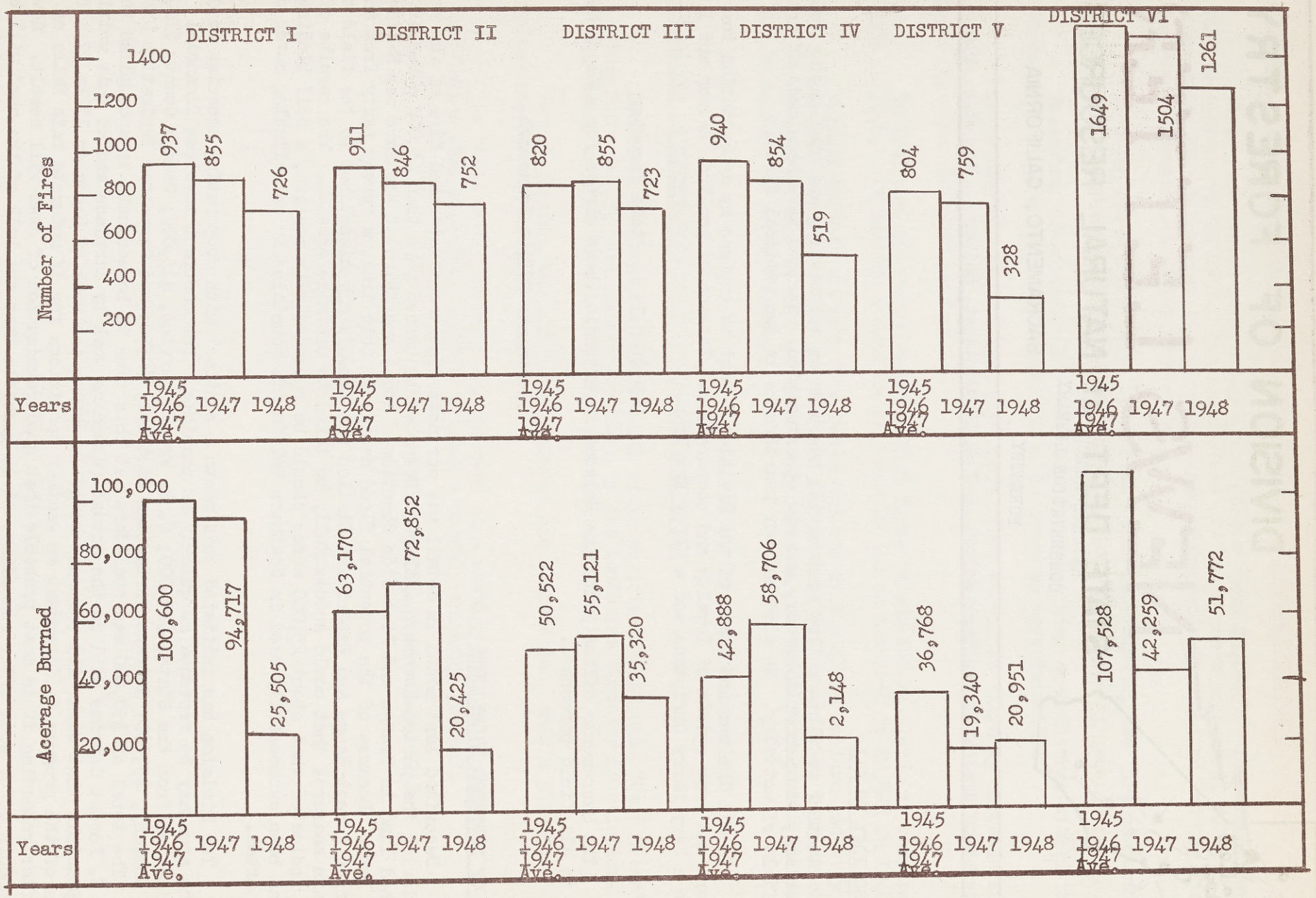
Sacramento Office Personnel

## REPORT OF NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Described last month in detail was our most disastrous watershed fire of the year which during the period November 4 through November 10 burned more than 45,000 acres of primary watershed land in Orange and Riverside Counties. About one-third of the burn was National Forest Land. Because of the potential flood damage in this area, a survey party from the California Forest Range and Experiment Station was immediately dispatched to the field to ascertain measures that could successfully be taken to minimize erosion. The results of the survey indicated that about 25,000 acres should be reseeded with mustard, a soil binding plant that has been successfully used in Southern California mountains in establishing cover on burned areas.

The Division has initiated this month a contract with cooperating agencies in order that the area may be reseeded as quickly as possible. The contract involves financial participation from the State, $15,000; U. S. Forest Service, $15,000; Orange County $10,000; Irvine Company, $5,000; Serrano Irrigation District, $2500; and Carpenter Irrigation District, $2500. The total of $50,000 was considered at this time to be adequate to accomplish the task. The U. S. Forest Service will do the actual reseeding work by airplane and at this writing, it is possible that work will commence sometime during the week of December 13 to 17. The success of the program is dependent on weather conditions for if moderate rain falls on the soil after reseeding it is most probable that good germination of seed will result. However, if downpours occur soon after reseeding, it is possible that the bulk of the seed will be washed down slope. If successful, the program will be of tremendous value in minimizing soil erosion and reservoir siltation during the coming winter months.

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
NOVEMBER 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

Altho weather conditions continued to be severe in the Southern California area during the entire month of November, there were recorded no serious losses on lands protected by the Division of Forestry with the exception of the Green River fire described above. Santana winds were in evidence periodically through the month and created hazards that had not been approached in many years. In fact, local residents and fire control personnel indicated that the month of November saw conditions as hazardous as any period during the last twenty five years. Altho many fires occurred in areas protected by the Division, none exceeded 300 acres. Potentially disastrous fires were threatened in Riverside County on November 18, 19, 25, and 29. A total of 126 fires were recorded in our District VI area during the month which was only a slight increase of 13 fires over a similar period of last year.

During the month, cooperating agencies and the press and radio were tremendously helpful in advising local people of the fire hazards that existed. Had it not been for the excellent work of the many organizations and agencies, supported by the information media, fire occurrence undoubtedly would have been much greater. Despite prevailing conditions, in the entire southern California area for the year, we record 38 less fires to date than for a similar period of 1947, 44 fires less than 1946, and 700 fires less than 1945. Statewide reduction of both number of fires and acreage burned is also in evidence with figures showing 1364 fires less than 1947 and 196,000 acres less than 1947. Altho some fires did occur at the lower elevations in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valley zones and in the south coast range below San Francisco, by the end of the month in all areas, except the south coast and the Southern California areas, the fire season was virtually at its end. Because of the hazardous conditions that still prevailed at the end of the month in nine Southern California counties, the Director of Natural Resources extended the period necessary for individuals to obtain burning permits before setting fires or blasting in wild land areas beyond the normal period of December 1. This proclamation, authorized under Section 4153 of the Public Resources Code, of unusual fire hazards in existence in nine Southern California Counties will be in effect until recinded by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources.

During the month of November, the Division initiated a study for possible revisions of the 1940 Fire Plan. The study will determine whether or not there has been any appreciable shift in fire occurrence patterns and land values that in turn would indicate changes in fire suppression crew locations, size, or number. It is hoped that this survey and study will be completed by mid 1949.

Field work for the detection inventory for District I was completed this month with the exception of Humboldt County. From preliminary studies, it seems that revisions to the over-all lookout plan are necessary. Of special interest there is noted the experiment in Humboldt County this year of fire detection thru the use of aircraft, the air patrol was financed on an acreage basis by land owners in the County in cooperation with the Division of Forestry. Because of the nature of topography and the shape of the county, the use of aircraft was found well adapted. Further studies will be necessary to study the degree of correlation necessary between existing lookouts and air patrol.

For many years, it has been assumed that the average visibility distance for most lookouts maintained by the State is approximately fifteen miles. Preliminary studies, especially in District VI, now show that fifteen miles is a gross over-estimate because of the industrial smoke and haze conditions that now prevail in the area. Our studies are being extended into the other regions of the State and if conditions seem to be the same, radical changes may be necessary in our lookout system because of the poor visibility conditions.

Some 5,000 Christmas trees were harvested and sold from the Latour State Forest in Shasta County during the month. Harvested as a part of the silvicultural thinning

program under the direction of Forest Technician, the sale will probably amount to more than $5,000 of income.

A contemplated timber sale on the 30 acre Paradise fire suppression station in Butte County yielded no bidders. This apparently is a reflection of the softening of the lumber market. It had been planned to make a selective cut from this district to demonstrate to small owners of timber the potentialities of managing their second growth timber stands.

Action was started during the month to acquire 120 acres of public domain land lying contiguous to the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County. The area was examined, cruised and applications filed with the State Land Commission to acquire these lands for the State from the U. S. Bureau of Land Management.

Plans were under way this month in an attempt to do some direct seeding this winter on the recent Pine Mountain burn in Santa Cruz County. It is hoped that naked and pelleted Douglas Fir and Redwood seed can be planted in areas where rodent population will be controlled by the use of poison baits. In addition, it is hoped that there can be some experimental planting of Ponderosa pine. Seedlings of this species will be secured from the Whitmore Experimental Nursery in Shasta County.

Preliminary surveys indicated this month the 1948 season was possibly one of very low forest insect activity. The State-wide reports are at this time very encouraging. It is estimated that loss from forest insect attacks this year will be one-sixth of that experienced last season. Insect control projects will again be conducted in the Julian area in San Diego County. Studies are under way at the present time and experiments will follow in spraying standing trees with insecticides dissolved in fuel oil by use of power equipment.

Forest management administrative activities will be further hampered for sometime as the Division is losing the principal forest technician in charge of forest management work on North Coast District at the end of the year. It is noted that the Division has lost the services of the forest manager and assistant forest manager within the last three months. Personnel to fill these important positions have not yet been found.

WINTER MEETING

Winter meeting of Northern California section of Society of American Foresters drew largest attendance in some years. About 500 members turned out for the all-day gathering December 4 in San Francisco.

The Sustained Yield Act of 1944 was subject of panel discussion in the morning under chairmanship of W. H. Price of Shasta Forests Company. Regional Forester Thompson described the law, Richard Kearns of Portland spoke in favor of it, and R. T. Titus of Portland spoke against it.

Under the afternoon chairmanship of State Forester DeWitt Nelson, management of brushlands was discussed. Professors Carl Sauer, Ben Madson, Martin Huberty, and Joseph Kittredge of the U. of C. ably cast light into cloudy areas of this problem.

At the banquet, Walter S. Johnson, President of American Box Company gave a highly interesting review of the lumber industry on the European continent. All in all, the winter meeting was most worthwhile and reflected excellent advance work by the Section officers and the committees.

FOREST FIRES IN THE ARGENTINE, by Agricultural Engineer Lucas A. Tortorelli, Director of Forest Administration, Ministry of Agriculture of the Argentine Government, Published at Buenos Aires in 1947.

A limited number of copies of this work were brought to the Inter-American Conference on Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources by the Argentine delegation. The cover and frontispiece portray the menace of fire. The cover is in color showing the devastation of fire with dead and burning trees and with the bodies of wild animals. It carries the caption: "These values of the forest are destroyed by action of FIRES." The frontispiece carries the warning: "Beware of fire. It destroys our forests and threatens the prosperity of the country." This work consists of 235 pages of text copiously illustrated with maps, graphs and charts, plus 32 pages of photographs showing in general the devastation resulting from fire. The interesting part of this book is that the experiences of the Argentine so closely parallel similar experiences in large areas of this country.

"Written in Spanish - translated by Chairman W. S. Rosecrans, California State Board of Forestry - I was struck with the close parallel between the conditions in the Argentine and conditions in our own country. Perhaps Division of Forestry field personnel will be interested in these conditions."

W. S. Rosecrans

Among the factors which contribute to the deterioration and reduction of Argentine forests, fires hold first place because of their characteristically devastating action. Second and third, in completing the work of destruction, come the irrational exploitation of the trees and the free use of the lands in the interior of our wooded areas for pasture.

Dense, rich groves disappear every year, devoured by flames, steadily enlarging the total of damaged forests and increasing the already too extensive desert stretches of the country which were once woodlands of the highest economic, biological, strategic and ornamental importance.

Hence the need of making known and of publicizing widely the causes of fires, in order to prevent conflagrations or to strive with the greatest possible effectiveness in the work of defense against fire.

In this connection, the experience of the great forest countries shows us how much can be done to reduce to the lowest terms these catastrophes which so grievously damage the best Argentine forests.

Of course, we understand that it is not possible to prevent fires entirely; no matter what precautions are taken, some will occur inevitably. We have an example of this in the forest fires taking place every year in countries which have made outstanding advances in education regarding forestry and its practical application, such as Finland, Sweden, Norway, Canada and the United States, where, furthermore, extraordinary systems of prevention are available. This is clearly shown to be true, in the "Third Report to the Governments of the United Nations," transmitted by the Food and Agriculture Commission (worked out by the Technical Committee on Forestry and Primary Forest Products, distributed in the form of mimeographed copies issued at Washington in April 1945), which states that "the volume of standing timber for construction purposes in the United States has been reduced by 40% during the last thirty years and the lumber destroyed every year by fire in North America would be sufficient to build a five-room dwelling house every hundred feet on both sides of a highway from Paris to Moscow." Also, in the article entitled "A Landes Problem," by Roger Sargos, in Revue de Bois II (2): 7-11, 1947, in order to give an idea of the impressive losses caused by fire in the "marine pine" forests (Pinus pinaster Arr.) in those important French wooded areas during the recent war, the writer states that "a third of the area of the valuable Landes forests, which extend over more than 950,000 hectares (2,347,500 acres) of pine forests, has now been destroyed. In the course of the period from 1942-46, fire swept over more than 385,000 hextares (951,300 acres), destroying

320,000 hectares (788,720 acres) of dense forest. This amount, added to the 50,000 hectares (123,550 acres) burned during the summer of 1938 and the practical impossibility of accomplishing any artificial reforestation work since then, makes it possible to estimate the loss in the Landes wooded area to be somewhere between a minimum of 350,000 hectares (864,850 acres) and a maximum of 400,000 hectares (988,400 acres)," and the writer adds that "after fire has swept over a section, the insects take charge of totally demolishing the timber."

But, at any rate, it is certain that if precautions are taken, the possibilities of the spread of fire can be considerably reduced, with economic benefits which will amply repay all efforts and expense, however, great.

It is undoubtedly true in our country that the distance to the forests, the irregular topography of the land, the scant communications and, in some sections, the low density of population per unit of area, all contribute to the seriousness of the problem of forest fires.

On the other hand, as will be noted in this study, the neglected condition of our forests, altogether uncared for, as far as silviculture goes, provides abundant material for fire and makes slower and more difficult the task of prevention and protection. In many Argentine forests, frequently trees complete their full cycle of development without ever benefitting anybody and, as they fall because of being over-mature, they add more fuel to feed the rapid advance of the voracious devourer.

Because of this, and realizing that the excessively selective extraction of trees which is still practiced in the case of many forests, is as harmful as the procedure described above, we have these last years allowed and issued licenses for the taking out of dead timber, either fallen or standing, from the forests of the northern and southern sections. This measure both helped to provide fuel at a time of great shortage, caused by the international conflict, and also made possible the elimination of a part of that dangerous material, diminishing the probabilities of fires.

The present study is divided into four parts: in the first, second and the third the causes and effects of forest fires in the north, south, and in the Delta of the Parana River, respectively, are analyzed; and in the fourth a review is presented of the measures taken, especially by the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Nation, for the purpose of trying to reduce fires to the minimum.

In order not to make the descriptions too long, only a few examples of important fires that have taken place during the past ten years are given, and the enormous losses occasioned by them are enumerated. And we refer in a very special way to the forests within national territory, since it is there that we have carried on the greater part of our research, for reasons of a jurisdictional character. However, since national territory forms on integral part of nearly all phytogeographic sections of Argentina, the research can be considered applicable practically to the whole country.

It is to be noted that, in general, all the Latin American countries are slowly becoming aware of the imperative need of protecting their forest resources as they should. And this is coming about, it should be stated clearly, because these resources did not cost great effort and, consequently, they are taken as free property, to be used for profit alone, exploiting it in whatever way may best meet the eagerness to derive immediate benefit, without taking into any account, at the same time, the welfare of future generations.

In this connection, the fact should be considered that in our country, with the scanty funds available up to 1943 to the former Division of Forests of the Office of Lands or to the former Technical Section of Forests (both divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Nation), little could be accomplished, even in the matter of fire prevention.

With the creation of the Forestry Administration on November 17, 1943, as a technical-administrative organization devoted to the protection, improvement and enlargement of the national forests, to which Department were transferred all the forestry activities of the Department of Agriculture, we have succeeded in carrying out an intensive and fruitful campaign of forestry education during the past three years and we have initiated, though modestly, indeed, the organization of the fight against fire, a fight which will receive decided stimulus when the forestry part of the Government Five-Year Plan begins to be put into effect.

July, 1947

DO YOU KNOW?

1. Can you name the largest county in California from the standpoint of area?

2. How many members are there on the Board of Forestry and what interests must they represent?

3. The flower of what common Sierra foothill shrub-like tree is poisonous to bees, and do you know its scientific name?

4. Are the officers of the Board of Forestry appointed or chosen by the Governor?

5. What type of conservation work is the term "wattle" associated with?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #10, VOL. 7 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. An owner of private land within the boundaries of a National Forest must secure his permit for any control burn from the nearest State Forest Ranger.

2. Presently there are seven State Forests in California. They are Mt. Zion State Forest, 164 acres in Amador County; Mt. Home Tract, 4,562 acres in Tulare County; Ellen Picket State Forest, 160 acres in Trinity County; Las Posadas, 796 acres in Napa County; Latour State Forest, 9,013 acres in Shasta County; Jackson State Forest, Mendocino County, including the Mendocino Woodland Recreational Area, 52,304 acres; and Loghry State Forest, 68 acres in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties.

3. There are five Divisions in the Department of Natural Resources. They are the Divisions of Beaches and Parks, Fish and Game, Forestry, Oil and Gas, and Mines.

4. When a lookout gives a reading to a dispatcher it is always an azimuth reading. An azimuth can be expressed in degrees up to 360 and a bearing never above 90°. A bearing denotes direction, i. e. N 20° E, S 15 W, etc.

5. A man-caused fire within the boundaries of a National Forest is termed a "fire trespass" by U.S.F.S. personnel.

BACK ON THE JOB

Walt Winters, Fire Control Officer for the Division is back on the job, mindful however of the good Doctor's orders. We are certain that field men join with us in our hearty welcome!

Sacramento Office

PROTECTION FORCES CREDITED BY ORANGE COUNTY SUPERVISOR
"LETTER TO MR. NELSON & DIVISION OF FORESTRY"

"On behalf of the County of Orange, I wish to take this opportunity to express appreciation for the invaluable service rendered to Orange County by you and your department during the recent Green River fire.

The splendid cooperation between the State Division of Forestry in both Orange and Riverside Counties, the U. S. Forest Service and our local volunteer companies, as well as the military personnel from El Toro Marine Base and March Field, together with the helpful contribution of local spray rig operators at critical points, undoubtedly reduced to a considerable degree the extent of the fire. The program of volunteer fire companies, I feel, demonstrated its efficiency in this emergency, in cooperation with the other agencies.

The work done and the way it was handled, under the most severe conditions of drought, with virtually zero humidity and a strong wind, was most impressive. Nothing that needed to be done was left undone, and nothing was done that should not have been done. Effectiveness of control measures is emphasized by the fact that despite the size of the fire and the hazardous conditions, there was no loss of life and only four or five minor structures were destroyed.

Your department deserves much credit and the thanks of this community for its service. "

Sincerely yours,
s/ Willard Smith, Chairman
Board of Supervisors, Orange County

MACE PRAISES HELPFUL ASSISTANCE ON GREEN RIVER FIRE

It is with a deep sense of pride that we bring to your attention the outstanding cooperation and assistance we received on the recent fire in Riverside and Orange Counties from the Fire Control staff in Sacramento and the personnel from the other districts. Mr. Fred Herbert was always most helpful and cooperative. The men who came in from the other districts did an outstanding job with a very cooperative attitude.

The evidence of team work as exemplified on this fire makes one feel proud to be a part of this organization. I should like to express our appreciation to the respective districts for their assistance and cooperative spirit. With this feeling of complete unity prevailing throughout our whole organization, no challenge should be too great.

J. K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

DIVISION MEN ATTEND INSTRUCTOR TRAINING SCHOOL

Fifteen men from various parts of the State recently attended a training school in Fresno. The school ran from November 29 through December 10 and was conducted by our old friend Tom Ward, Supervisor of Fire Training from the Bureau of Trade and Industrial Education of the State Department of Education. The subject of the school was "How To Instruct". The men attending the school were chosen so they could in turn pass it along to the other employees within the Division who do most of the training in our every day work. The school was held as a part of the routine training program of the Division.

Those attending were: W. G. Francis, San Diego County; Gervice F. Nash, Santa Clara County; H. P. Reinecka, Yuba County; H. L. Moore, El Dorado County; Ralph Throop,

Shasta County; Ross Dunwoody, Lake County; Raymond R. Higgins, Fresno County; Henry L. Arnold, Mariposa County; J. W. Miller, Sonoma County; Harold Nixon, North Butte; Alvin B. Fillippini, Madera County; John N. Clark, Tulare County; S. Nash -Boulden, San Luis Obispo County; C. U. Ulrey; San Bernardino County; G. O. Phibbs, Sacramento; Ranger A. Roy Bengard of Fresno County and his various personnel are hereby accorded a vote of thanks for their hospitality and food throughout the duration of the school. The men attending showed their appreciation of Mrs. John Hay's cooking by a box of chocolates on the last day so we at least know they learned about some good old fashioned home cooking. However, they still don't believe it can be done for 39¢.

THANKS TO MRS HAYES

Our thanks to Mrs. Jimmy Hayes for the lovely wreath she made and presented to the Sacramento Office. Ann is well known for her Christmas decorations.

STATE FORESTER NELSON ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF RALEIGH TAYLOR

State Forester Nelson has announced this month the appointment of Raleigh Taylor Fire Prevention Officer in District III to the new position of Supervisor of Conservation Education with headquarters in Riverside. In his new capacity Taylor will speerhead the efforts of all protection and conservation organizations in Southern California in the fire prevention educational program. He will seek additional educational cooperation on the part of large business and individual concerns, promotional organizations, civic and community groups, the press, radio, and television. He will work under the direction of Deputy Mace and his efforts will be coordinated with the State-wide program thru Bill Fairbank of the Sacramento office. Louis Gerlinger, formerly Assistant Ranger Santa Clara County, will succeed Taylor in the Fire Prevention Officer job in District III. Both men will take up their new duties after January 1.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

"SWEDE" WALLEN TO LEAVE DIVISION

With much regret, District I received word from Forest Technician Arnold (Swede) Wallen, of his intention to leave the service of the State Division of Forestry to enter private industry.

Arnold, together with Herb Jensen of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and Alonzo Hammon, photogrammetrist, are creating a new firm which will provide valuable service to owners of forest and range lands on the West Coast, who are interested in progressive land management practice.

The firm (official name not yet known) will be equipped to furnish clients with the latest photogrammetric land and forest resource analysis and mapping techniques. Offices will be located in Berkeley, California, (address not yet known).

We sincerely wish Arnold and his partners much success in their new venture.

F. H. Raymond
Deputy State Forester

PANEL HELD ON FARM FORESTRY

At Seaman's Lodge in Nevada City on the evening of November 17, a panel discussion was held on the subject of "Farm Forestry". This meeting was sponsored by the Nevada County Conservation Council.

Panel speakers included Bill Maguire, State Division of Forestry; Leon Sanford and Eugene Horton, Nevada County farmers; George Craig, Western Pine Association; and Clair Ivey, logging operator. Each speaker gave a five minute talk on his views of "Farm Forestry". Afterwards the speakers and audience joined in an informal discussion.

Dr. Percy Barr, Professor of Forestry at the University of California, was an invited guest and he offered a few timely suggestions to timber land owners.

At the conclusion of the panel discussion the forestry film, "Green Harvest", was shown.

All who attended the meeting thought it was both educational and interesting. Many were surprised at the present day interest of the public in "Farm Forestry".

Lew Moran, State Forest Ranger

HAPPENINGS IN CALAVERAS COUNTY

The peculiar characteristics and dangers of escaping butane gas were brought close to home in November when Assistant Ranger John Jackson's wife, Nadine, suffered painful leg burns in their home. The gas had spread undetected over the floors of several rooms when it became ignited. Their year-old son, Tim, escaped unscathed while in his crib. After phoning an alarm Jack had the fire nearly extinguished by the time the fire crews arrived. We are all thankful that Jack is able to report Nadine is up and around with the aid of crutches.

During November nearly all personnel were absorbed in a scramble to pick up all their CTO time. Ranger Jim Fenlon hit the jackpot by also picking up a new sedan, a Ford 49'er. His old sedan, an "SPO Special," will not be missed. Not to be outdone by the State, Jim is also sporting a nifty new Pontiac which he and Mrs. Fenlon "road-tested" with a trip to San Bernardino early in the month.

Standby time in District IV came as somewhat of a surprise to Assistant Ranger Jackson. He expressed some disappointment over not being sent all the way to the Santa Ana fires, but he was consoled somewhat with a description of Ranger Fenlon's experiences down there the previous week.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

On November 23rd Placer County employees and their families gathered at the Auburn station for a post fire season banquet. Guests included Deputy State Forester Fred M. Dunow and his family. We wish we could have had more in attendance at this function but our limited facilities did not allow too large an attendance. At that there were some 43 Forestry employees and their families in attendance.

Inasmuch as the function took place shortly before Thanksgiving the entree was turkey, which was amply flanked by all of the various dishes that go to make up a real banquet. The dinner was prepared by Irene Royat who really outdid herself. The proof of this was the fact that before dinner it was anticipated that we would be eating turkey for at least a week afterwards. Actually, there was barely enough left for lunch the next day.

The messhall was decorated with greens, pine cones, and red berries which, of course, were procured as part of our Forest Practice activities. Entertainment for the

evening following the dinner consisted of several games of bingo wherein the number one prize was won by Deputy Dunow.

All in all the event was a big success and it is our hopes that it can be continued as a yearly function and, perhaps, can be expanded next year so that greater attendance can be accommodated.

One of the advantages of living in a small community is the fact that the local newspapers usually carry considerable space devoted to the comings and goings of local people which sometimes can be very interesting from the standpoint of our job.

For example, we have been plagued all summer with prospective firefighters who were trying to get work but who were not up to our minimum age requirements. Through considerable subterfuge one individual did obtain employment and caused us no little trouble. In order to verify his stated age of 18 he even registered for the draft.

However, the final blow came when in the latest issue of the local paper the following news item appeared: "Mrs. Jane Amundsen and children were guests of the Guy Simpkin's on Thanksgiving". Our Dispatcher, Jack Amundsen, has been telling tales of his experiences during the war and of his subsequent employment with the Veterans' Administration before entering our employ, apparently to substantiate his claim of having seen some 30 odd winters. However, we now are starting to wonder inasmuch as Mrs. Jane Amundsen is Jack's mother which, according to the article, puts Jack in the category of "children".

It must be admitted that he appears to be well over 18; however, it is possible that like some of our equipment the appearance belies the age due to the rough mileage traveled.

According to previous information sent us we have been expecting to be contacted by the 20-30 Club in regard to the use of our roadside signs for the accident prevention program this winter. One of the most incongruous sights seen was in the upper country a day after a heavy snow fall when there was some six inches of snow on top of the horizontal support for the roadside sign with the current "put it out" sign very much in evidence against the white landscape. Due to the fact that there was about a foot of snow on the ground at this location it would have been impossible to have started a fire even intentionally.

Contact with the local 20-30 Club indicated that they had not received the accident prevention posters and so we have arranged to take down our signs pending the receipt of the posters by the 20-30 Club. It is felt that they will lose much of their value and would undoubtedly be the subject of many jokes were they to be left up during the winter period.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

A NEWCOMER IN DISTRICT IV

A newcomer to District IV personnel is Mr. Bill Webb, District IV's new Carpenter Foreman. Bill hails from Ontario, California, and formerly was a carpenter for the Division of Highways of Minnesota. In between jobs Bill is house hunting and advises that all he needs to make house hunting here in Fresno <u>really</u> difficult is a cat and a piano..you see, there are four little Webbs.

Bill was indoctrinated in true Forestry form. His first assignment was completing the construction of a concrete tile barracks at the Hurley Station in Fresno County. The

concrete tile in these buildings, and others in District IV, are manufactured by the C.Y.A. at Coarsegold. Fire crew personnel in District IV have performed some commendable work in the District's minor construction program; especially the men having an aptitude for construction work have very willingly helped show those not familiar with the use of tools and construction techniques.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

FROM FRESNO COUNTY COMES THE FOLLOWING NEWS

On November 22, 1948, the stork made a visit to Fresno County and left an auburn haired, 8 lb. 12 oz. baby girl with Mr. & Mrs. Fred Keast, Fred, the proud papa, is Assistant Ranger in charge of the Blasingame District in eastern Fresno County.

The State-wide training school being held at Fresno District Headquarters got under way on Monday morning, November 29, 1948, with Associate and Assistant Rangers from the six districts in attendance. The trainees are taking a course in "Instructors Training" under the direction of Tommy Ward, State Board of Education and Alvin Filippini, Associate Ranger, District IV Training Officer. Upon completion of the course, the trainees will return to their districts and carry on an extensive personnel training program.

Ranger A. Roy Bengard's pulse and Fresno County's meal cost both hit a new high during November. It seems that Fresno County became a left-handed fire camp about the 10th of the month and played host to several technicians, rangers, associates and assistants from District III. They were moved in on standby for the Orange County fire.

During their stay, the food, beds, and pool table helped break the monotony. Now Roy's problem is this: does he or does he not charge the meal cost to District VI.

Forest Technician Dean Schlobohm and Associate Ranger Norman Nicholson have been threatening to rent horses for use on the road survey from Los Gatos Canyon to the Joaquin Rocks Lookout site. Lots of rough, steep and brushy country separate the two spots.

We wish to welcome a newcomer to District IV. He is William Webb, our new Carpenter Foreman. Bill hails from Ontario, California, and is new to the Division of Forestry. A sample of his good work can be seen at our Hurley Fire Control Station, the exterior of which is complete.

Fresno County was well represented at the Society of American Foresters meeting in San Francisco on December 4, 1948, with Associate Rangers Nicholson and Higgins and Assistant Rangers Gutowski and Keast attending.

Fresno County's collection of conifer seed has been cleaned and turned into the District IV office for transmittal to the Davis Nursery. The seed was collected by Technician Schlobohm, Associate Higgins, Assistant Keast and Foreman Hedges.

QUIRKS! Last week, Jack Nutter, former Fresno County Truck Driver, sent us his new address at the San Diego Naval Training Station. This week a group of his friends and neighbors (Draft Board to you) dropped him a line notifying him of his position on the list. We forwarded the letter to Jack in San Diego....bet he laughs last.

Ray Higgins
Associate Ranger

HAPPENINGS IN DISTRICT V

Every one wishes/the three brave employees of District V who are returning to well their Alma Mamma, good old U. of C. at Berkeley that is. I understand that all of the Alumni is going to gather at the old school and they wanted our Assistant Deputy, the right Hon. C. A. Albertus, our Farm Forester John Dowdakin, and last, but not least, Mr. Jenie Sindel. In asking these boys back to the old school we cant fathom if it is to be propoganda for the undergraduates or if they will be held up to the class as horrible examples of our educational system. Any way, the last heard from the boys they were chasing a white leghorn hen so that they could obtain feathers to dye red so that they would be able to enter into the proper spirit.

It has been rumored that our Associate Ranger Jen Sindel is about to receive a brand new "Chevie". Mr. Sindel has felt a crying need for this transportation as it will now enable him to supervise the activities of the field personnel more closely.

Our Deputy C. G. Strickland should be in line for the Pulitzer prize or some other noted award, for it is understood that he has invited his entire staff and their families to a buffet luncheon on December 12th. Needless to say it takes a very brave man to do this owing to the high cost of living, as in the past I have seen some of these people eat, and brother it would surprise you. Well any how I still think that "Strick" should get that award. The celebration is in honor of the opening of their new home in that center of superior intellect Carmel by the Sea.

Mrs. Alice McAuley, who has worked many years in the District office, both in San Francisco and at Monterey, has resigned as of the end of November. Needless to say we will all miss her ever so much. Before Alice left all the girls gave her a small party at the office and she was presented a lovely Sterling silver heart and chain. On the chain there were attached several tubes of the type of war paint that ladies put on their lips. All in all it must be wonderful to be able to retire from the world of workers and be able to sit at home. I understand that Mr. and Mrs. McAuley have started raising begonias as a hobby. It is understood that Mr. McAuley will resume his position as Chief of the Carmel State Forestry upon the return from a trip to Southern California and Mexico.

"Roving Reporter from District V ?"

"AND WHEN IT HAPPENED"

It happened on November 4 before daylight, the first warning was the rustle of leaves in the trees;-we do have trees. Then, it was not content to be a rustle but became a real aggravated force increasing until at times it reached 60 miles an hour. Everybody was on his toes with that dreaded feeling that anything could happen — and then it happened, at 1:20 P.M. the first call came in; there were two fires in the Santa Ana Canyon. All equipment in the vicinity was dispatched immediately, one fire was caught but the other went on to do the damage, lasting for days. Not only all the services of Southern California were alerted and participated in bringing this demon under control, but the call for assistance was answered from every District in the Division.

The efforts and the accomplishments were outstanding. We have been years organizing for such potential disasters and there is a sense of feeling that the State Division of Forestry was not found wanting when it happened.

We can be proud of the team work that was exemplified by all organizations in meeting this emergency - The Army, Navy, Marine Corps, California Highway Patrol, Sheriff's Office, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Volunteer Crews, the general public, the U. S. Forest

Service, and the State Division of Forestry. When all such organizations can work together efficiently in combating a common foe, it is our belief that our system can be effective and equal to any challenge.

James K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

While the rest of Southern California's Foresters got their clothes black and their shirts sweaty during the season's major fire suppression campaigns of November, the men on the structure crew at Camp Elliott kept the barracks lights burning and the callouses from forming on their hands and feet.

Even though they were minus the services of their "Chief", who was soaking up a little book learning at the Naval Fire Chief's Conference in Long Beach, they managed to continue with their drills in case they ever do have a fire.

This might sound like soft duty (and it is) but all the crew members seem eager to get with it when other stations are having excitement.

F. M. Anderson
Assistant State Forest Ranger
Camp Elliott Fire Station

CONGRATULATIONS! Foreman Larry Ramsbacker, Patrolman from the La Mesa Headquarters, San Diego County recently got himself engaged and tells us that the wedding bells will ring sometime in January. The bride-to-be is Miss Marilee McManigal, a co-ed at San Diego State College. Now, instead of spending his spare time idly, Larry is house hunting. So, if anyone reading this hears of a house or apartment for rent somewhere near (?) La Mesa, I'm sure Larry would appreciate hearing about it.

Leona Minga
Intermediate Typist Clerk
San Diego County Headquarters

Considerable progress has been made in the past few months toward high frequency F.M. operations. Three repeater units are now in operation in Cuyamaca Peak, Lyons Peak, and Boucher Hill, which is on Palomar Mountain. Thirteen F.M. mobile units are also in operation.

Lyons repeater operates on a frequency of 31,850 Kc A.M. and 153.41 Mc F.M. while Cuyamaca and Boucher handle F.M. only. Lyons repeater covers the major portion of traffic in the Western portion of the county, both A.M. and F.M. and Cuyamaca and Boucher handle traffic on Eastern and Northwestern portions respectively. The county, as a whole is fairly well covered. Although serving their purpose at the present time, all three installations are on a temporary basis. Lyons repeater being the only one with commercial power, is in operation 24 hours a day. The other two, powered from gas driven generators, are in operation 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily and other times as conditions warrant.

The F.M. land station installed at the La Mesa office affords direct communications with Riverside District Office via Santiago Peak Repeater.

With the proposed extension of commercial power to Cuyamaca Peak and the construction of concrete radio repeater vaults at the three repeater locations, San Diego

County is looking ahead to a very efficient communications set-up.

H. A. Holcomb
Senior Radio Technician
San Diego County

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Two new "Jimmie" pumpers were recently received and placed into service after being equipped with two-way radio units. They were being eased into fire duty on small "smokes" when October 7 saw all "H----" break loose in the east portion of San Bernardino County along the Riverside County line. So, by the time this goes to press they should be well seasoned fire service troopers.

Herz "HOT STUFF" Paving Company of San Bernardino was awarded the job of face lifting the County Headquarters year; resurfacing with black top, the driveways, garage floors, and parking areas, etc. Paving was finished in one day with the company working until 10:00 P.M. to complete.

NOW HEAR THIS! All you followers of the sport better known as "Deer Hunting":

Two gentlemen of the aforementioned county, known to all far and near as Tom Bryan and Art Balsom, after "Marching Through Morongo" for some 35 miles???????? brought home the total of ??????? Alh, yes! The wide open spaces. Wonder if the deer gave the gentlemen even a little encouragement?

P.S. In order to make the writer look foolish, Bryan and Balsom took another trip; walked one hundred yards from the car and Bryan tagged a three pointer to keep it from running over him.

The minor improvement project at our Etiwanda Station in the West-end Assistant Ranger District will probably be completed by press, except for additional landscaping. It provides for a wide cement driveway, equipment enlarged to provide for the modern pumpers, and ornamental rock work with combination incinerator-barbecue pit. The Etiwanda Volunteer Firemen are looking forward to initiating the pit at an early opportunity. According to all reports, the community certainly is well pleased with their C.D.F. Station and County School which are about a block apart on the main street - two very attractive civic buildings in the community.

With the disasterous fire along the Riverside-Orange County line being fought by combined District VI forces, reduced units in San Bernardino County were fortunate in keeping fire losses to a minimum. This was in the face of particularly hazardous weather conditions of near zero humidity and wind velocities estimated at 80 M.P.H.

The San Antonio Heights Volunteer Fire Department, located in the State Forestry Building near Upland, was recently host to the Citrus Belt Firemen's Association for their monthly meeting. In attendance were approximately 125 municipal, fire district and forestry firemen for a most interesting program presented by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. The lecture-demonstration covered various phases of advancement in communications, especially micro-wave transmission.

Charles U. Ulrey
Assistant Ranger
San Bernardino County

YUCAIPA DISTRICT, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Aside from one major fire which has already been described in a previous copy

of the News Letter, the Yucaipa District has passed a quiet and uneventful season. The lack of fires allowed fire crews to spend quite a bit of their time on landscaping the newly acquired Assistant Ranger's residence next to the Yucaipa Station. Building rock walls, filling in the grounds, and rearranging things in general has added a great deal to the appearance of the property.

A new equipment garage just completed at the Yucaipa Station is actually large enough to park two trucks in it and ample space remains to walk around them without turning edgewise. This is a welcome feature that has not been enjoyed by anyone stationed at Yucaipa since the original Model "A" pumper was replaced by larger and more modern equipment. This improvement alone should prove that the Division of Forestry is expanding with improvement of buildings and equipment as quickly as possible.

While keeping one eye on the improvement work and fire suppression of the Yucaipa District, we still found time to inaugurate a fire prevention program that has paid us dividends. With the very fine cooperation of Assistant Ranger C. U. Ulrey, the County's Public Relations man, we were able to show fire prevention pictures to several hundred school children, sportsmens clubs, volunteer fire departments and other organizations. The favorable reactions and comments from these groups make us feel the time spent on fire prevention will be time saved on fire suppression.

Also, in the line of fire prevention, three new volunteer fire departments were organized in the desert communities of Joshua Tree, Yucca Village, and Morongo Valley. These new departments, added to the already organized volunteer departments of Yucaipa and Mentone, will give us a lot of skilled assistance on fires which occur during the winter season when our manpower is at its lowest ebb.

Charles A. Balsom
Assistant Ranger
San Bernardino County

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The long period of dry weather we experienced in Southern California creates a different problem than most of the other parts of the State. We put our firefighters on duty starting April 15 and our season runs way up until December 15, much longer than the six month period we are allowed to hold a TAU employee under civil service regulations.

So, during October and the first part of November, we are back at the old routine of employing and training new firefighters for the balance of the season.

George D. Marvel
Assistant Ranger
La Mesa Headquarters Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher at District VI Headquarters, and wife Mary are the proud parents of a baby girl, Martia (Pronounced Marsha) Elizabeth Glenn. All are doing well.

In closing, District VI wishes all a very Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

District VI.

OCT 06 1948 file Cal Sect Forestry

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 12 W.H. Fairbank-Editor F.J. Skewes-Asst. Editor December, 1948

Fish & Game Commission
Library Copy
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

## STATE FORESTER NELSON REPORTS DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

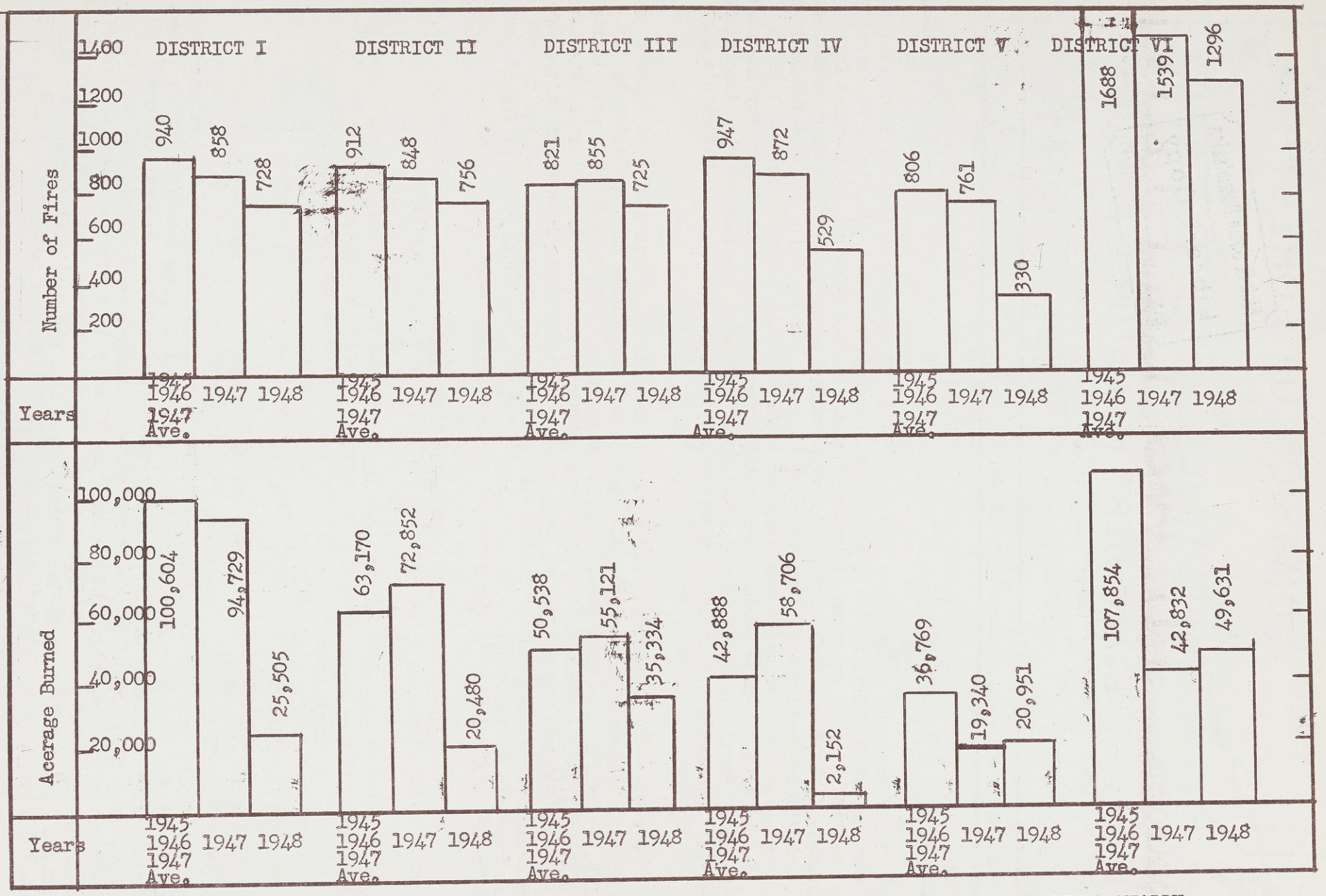
Tree farming is progressing in California. This encouraging fact is noteworthy in light of the increased attention the State of California, through the Division of Forestry, is giving this and similar programs of better forest management on privately-owned forest lands in this State. It will be recalled that there was added to Division of Forestry staff last year six technically trained foresters who were to work with small forest land owners in an attempt to bring better management practices to their lands. These men and other field personnel in the Division have worked in cooperation with various forest industry associations in this program. Particularly, this cooperation is noted with the Western Pine Association, the industrial organization that is sponsoring the Tree Farm program in California's pine region.

In a report recently received from this Association it is indicated that in the past six months thirty-six properties totalling 31,158 acres have been certified by the Western Pine Association as Tree Farms. Division field men have been helpful with thirty of these totalling 12,668 acres. In the pine area of California there are now sixty Tree Farms aggregating some 531,274 acres. This is only about ten percent of the area of privately-owned commercial forest land in the California pine region. Comparative records to date show California near the bottom of the list in number of Tree Farms and acreage of forest land certified under this program. A partial list for comparison follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alabama | 316 Tree Farms | 2,141,733 | acres |
| Arkansas | 251 " " | 3,900,843 | " |
| Mississippi | 192 " " | 441,162 | " |
| Tennessee | 167 " " | 276,102 | " |
| Texas | 157 " " | 2,490,178 | " |
| Washington | 96 " " | 2,066,641 | " |
| California | 61 " " | 532,126 | " |
| Florida | 45 " " | 1,100,436 | " |
| Montana | 40 " " | 705,672 | " |
| Oregon | 39 " " | 1,635,426 | " |

There is plenty of room for improvement here in this State and, fortunately, there are many more timber owners in California who are willing to grow trees for future crops. This is a cooperative program of forest industry organizations and the various states to locate these owners, help them crystalize their thoughts on management problems, get them to declare their intention to protect their timber lands and finally to recognize these well-treated areas as Certified Tree Farms. Both number and acreage are important. Nation-wide surveys have shown that as a whole the smaller timber ownerships are receiving the worst treatment generally. A large part of California's commercial timber area is in small holdings.

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
DECEMBER 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

NOTE: The error in the chart under acreage for District IV in the November News Letter has been noted and has been corrected.

To qualify for certification, a potential tree farmer must, under provisions established by the Western Pine Association:

1. Show his willingness to use the land under his control for production of forest crops.
2. Provide reasonable protection from fires, insects, and disease and from damage by excessive grazing.
3. Harvest forest crops from this Tree Farm in a manner which will insure future crops.
4. Furnish information when requested concerning progress on his Tree Farm.

The Western Pine Association inspects, certifies, and provides signs for posting timber areas in the pine region as Tree Farms. There is no cost involved for the owner.

Working in cooperation with this industrial organization, Division personnel have helped in contacting prospective individuals, have worked with them and the industrial representatives in order that their land may be certified as a Tree Farm. Although the forest advisory program is in its infancy in the Division, it is interesting to note that in the short space of a year the men have been of assistance in bringing better forest management practices to some areas of the State.

Over the past several weeks negotiations have been continued with responsible parties concerning the proposed acquisition of a State forest area of 3,350 acres in Lake County. Barring unforeseen circumstances, the details of this proposed acquisition should be in readiness in the near future to place in the hands of the State Forest Purchase Committee for action. The Committee is composed of the Governor, Director of Finance, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, and the Chairman of the California State Board of Forestry.

Reports have been received from the field this month concerning our seed collection program that was initiated this past season. Reports have indicated that the seed crop for White Fir, Ponderosa Pine, and Redwood was fair to good while that for Douglas Fir was a total failure. Anticipating a more active nursery program in future years, it is of utmost importance that seed stocks be accumulated. The stock will be kept in cold storage at the State Nursery at Davis.

During the past year the personnel in District II have operated an experimental branch nursery at the Whitmore CYA Camp in Shasta County. The plans are under way now to sell some 10,000 of the Ponderosa pine seedlings from that nursery to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation who will use the planting stock to reforest some of the denuded area on the Keswick Dam watershed in Shasta County. The balance of the stock will be left for maturing or will be used in an experimental planting by the Division. The Western Pine Association has offered to cooperate with the Division in treating some of this nursery stock before planting with various transpiration inhibitors. Experiments conducted by others indicate that this treatment may increase survival after planting. The various chemical substances needed are being acquired now in preparation for the trial work to be done.

Progress has been satisfactory during the month with the reseeding project on some 25,000 acres of watershed area burned over in Orange County in November. Under provisions of the agreement entered into last month with cooperating agencies, it is reported to date that mustard seed has been seeded over most of the 25,000 acres of the burned area. It is reported that recent rains were not of sufficient intensity to wash the seeds from the ridge areas into ravines and if the present cold weather conditions subside, and moderate precipitation follows, there is every possibility that this seeding program will be successful. The burned area at lower elevations that was to be seeded to grass rather than mustard has not yet been accomplished.



has been noted and has been corrected.

With the services of a trained statistician in existence for the past year, the Fire Control Section of the Division has been able to spend a great deal of time in the analyzation of the over-all fire control and fire prevention problem as it presently exists on lands protected by the Division. A series of statistical studies have been under way for many months and it is hoped that in the not too distant future a summary of these studies will be in final form for publication.

End of the year records, although tentative for 1948 until such time as actual fire records have been analyzed, show the following comparison in fire occurrence and acreage burned for the last four years on approximately 30,000,000 acres of land protected by the Division.

| Year | No. | Acreage |
|---|---|---|
| 1945 | 5,755 | 569,452 |
| 1946 | 5,972 | 270,573 |
| 1947 | 5,748 | 293,385 |
| 1948 | 4,352 | 154,053 |

Construction work continued in all parts of the State during December despite unfavorable weather conditions. The Nevada City office building in Nevada County is approximately 75% complete, the office at Susanville, Lassen County, 75%, and the residence 30%; and the office at Mariposa in Mariposa County 70% complete. Work at Marysville headquarters in Yuba County will begin in January and materials are being collected and distributed for the start of work at several other locations.

A great deal of effort has been expended in preparing data to be presented to Budgets and Accounts for the construction of six additional Forestry Work Camps throughout the State. Work is also being done in preparing additional requests for postwar construction activities in both the 1948-49 and 1949-50 Fiscal Years amounting to approximately an additional $1,800,000.

The Division's Equipment Plan is now two and a half years old and is in the process of being analyzed for the purpose of refinement and streamlining of operations. Six wheel tractors for roadside hazard reduction operation are in the process of being delivered. Eleven pickups are on order from Miller Auto Company and in the process of delivery, six of which will enter the field as pickup pumpers. Twelve dump trucks will be received within the next forty-five days at which time the dump body assemblies will be installed by Fruehauf Trailer Company. As soon as specifications are revised for fire trucks and crew trucks, 42 of these vehicles will be processed for acquisition. Eleven caterpillar tractors are in a similar status and will likewise be processed as soon as specifications are revised.

HAPPENINGS FROM OPERATIONS SECTION

The Central Files Section has prepared an "Office Employee's Handbook" which gives all the pertinent information concerning office procedure and explains and illustrates the form, etc. in the preparation of letters, circular letters, bluelines, stencils, telegrams and teletypes. This will be a very useful book for all employees as the information contained therein will strive towards uniformity in the office work as well as assist the new employee in Forestry procedure.

The number of district requisitions from the field for the 100th fiscal year is heavy, as shown by the number of estimates typed to December 21, 1948, in comparison with total number prepared in past fiscal years. Our records indicate approximately:

4,557 estimates typed first six months of 100th Fiscal Year.
6,316 estimates typed for 99th Fiscal Year.
6,050 estimates typed for 98th Fiscal Year.
6,250 estimates typed for 97th Fiscal Year.

It is estimated that approximately 10,000 estimates will be prepared by the end of the 100th Fiscal Year, June 30, 1949.

A new face to be seen in the Operations Section is Mrs. Lennie Davis who transferred from Department of Finance, Accounts and Disbursements, and is taking over the duties of Intermediate Account Clerk.

We are pleased to welcome Marjorie Neidig back to the Division of Forestry after a year's absence. She is an Intermediate Typist Clerk in the Operations Section. She formerly worked in the Division of Forestry Personnel Section.

Vacations in Operations: Dorothy Sornsen took a ten-day "flying trip" by automobile visiting New Orleans, Carlsbad Caverns, The Alamo and Mexico. Doris Jane Hales Young spent Christmas and the week after in Grass Valley with relatives.

Melvin Pomponio
Operations Officer

ANNUAL MEETING SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

The Society of American Foresters held its annual meeting in Boston on December 15 - 18.

The meeting was attended by 450 members and 150 guests. The first day's program was divided into nine sections; Private Forestry, Silviculture, Forest-Wildlife Management, Range Management, Forest Economics, Forest Recreation, Education, Public Relations and Forest Products. Most of the Sections were conducted on a panel and discussion basis.

The second and third days were given over to General Sessions with papers by outstanding men in the profession and to business meetings.

The high spot was the banquet at which William P. Tolley, Chancellor of Syracuse University and Albert W. Trueman, President of the University of New Brunswick each gave challenging and inspiring addresses. President Clyde Martin presented the Sir William Schlick Memorial Medal to Dr. H. H. Chapman for outstanding service in the field of forestry.

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester

U.S.F.S. PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

San Francisco, December 30 — California Region of the U.S. Forest Service this month announced two promotions — Andrew G. Brenneis of Santa Barbara, Supervisor of Los Padres National Forest, to become Assistant Regional Forester in charge of Personnel Management at the San Francisco regional headquarters; and Lloyd A. Rickel of Mt. Shasta, Assistant Supervisor of Shasta National Forest, to succeed Brenneis as Supervisor of Los Padres forest.

U.S.F.S. News Release - December 30, 1948

DO YOU KNOW?

1. What is the area of the State of California?

2. Of the total acreage of the State, what approximate fractional part is given fire protection by the Division?

3. What is the true common name of a very familiar Sierra foothill pine referred to by ranchers and other local people as "bull pine"?

4. Can you give the common names of three species of California brush that are valuable stock forage plants?

5. Are the boundaries of Zones 1 and 2 as defined by the Board of Forestry the same as the boundaries of Clarke McNary lands?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #11, VOL. 7 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. The largest County in California from the standpoint of area is San Bernardino County.

2. There are seven members of the Board of Forestry. Their representation is as follows: one the pine producing industry, one the redwood producing industry, one forest land ownership, one the range livestock industry, one agriculture, one the beneficial use of water, one from the general public at large.

3. The flower of the California Buckeye is poisonous to bees. Its scientific name is Aesculus Californiea.

4. The officers of the Board of Forestry are elected by the members from their own ranks.

5. The term "wattle" is commonly used in soil erosion work. It is a method of retaining earth on steep slopes by the use of willow limbs or other material woven together across the face of the slope.

GILLETT NAMED AFPI DIRECTOR

Washington, D. C. — (Special) — Announcement was made today of the selection of Charles A. Gillett as managing director of the American Forest Products Industries, Inc., a national educational association of lumber, pulp and paper, and plywood industries with headquarters in Washington, D. C., and field offices in New Orleans, Boston, and Portland, Oregon.

Gillett succeeds Chapin Collins who will resume publication of newspapers he owns in the State of Washington. Collins has served with the forestry organization since 1943.

Gillett has been the Chief Forester for the American Forest Products Industries, and previously was forester for the Seaboard Air Line Railway. Gillett also served as Arkansas' first state forester, as extension forester in Arkansas, and North Dakota, and as assistant extension forester in New York State.

The Association he now heads is national sponsor of the American Tree Farm program, the "Keep America Green" movement for forest fire prevention, and other projects

to encourage better management and protection of forest lands.

AFPI Press Release - December 15, 1948

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### PROMOTION ACKNOWLEDGED

We of Tuolumne County congratulate Raleigh A. Taylor upon his appointment as Supervisor of Conservation Education.

During his stay in District III we feel that, in numerous ways, he has shown us and helped us on toward better organization, better cooperation, and better fire prevention.

From a selfish standpoint, we regret losing Mr. Taylor, but realizing that our loss is Southern California's gain, we wish you Raleigh, the best of success in your new position.

Ed Minners
Associate State Forest Ranger

### FIRE SEASON END CELEBRATED

Saturday night, November 20, was a gay night for the C.D.F. employees and their guests in Tuolumne County. After a season of fire-smudged suntans, and dark green ties, all business, little or no time for social life - everyone donned their best "bib and tucker", gaily splashed ties - in bright red, brighter yellows and even brighter oranges, they all stepped out. Occasion? "End-of-fire-season Dinner-Dance" held at El Nido. All came early and stayed late. The food was delicious and the music super.

A bit of social news seaped through when a sparkler was noted on the left hand, ring finger of one lovely guest, Mary Wells. Congrats! Tom. Tom Sharrock, TAU Foreman, the lucky fellow.

Those who attended and enjoyed the evening until the wee hours of the morning were our amiable host, Ranger Ed Minners, and wife Mary, Associate Ranger and Mrs. Bert Harris, Dispatcher and Mrs. Harry Hall, Assistant and Mrs. Clint Phillips, Assistant Stew Sinclair, Clerk Anne Wilsey, Lookout "Pappy" Burgess, Cook Mary E. Lynch, Foreman Jack Davey, Foreman and Mrs. Ben Clayton, Equipment Operator and Mrs. Roy E. Moon, Foreman and Mrs. Hoppy Hopkins, Equipment Operator Jack Maneely and guest Louise Coast, Driver and Mrs. Jerry O'Reilly, Foreman Jenk Jenkins, Driver and Mrs. Ralph Bemiss, Driver Fred Stedman, Foreman Loren Hill and guest Beverly Burke, and the much befuddled Foreman Tom Sharrock, and fiancee Mary Wells.

It was good to see our men work together as a unit through the tenseness of the fire season, and it was good to see them relax and enjoy a pleasant evening together, also.

We in Tuolumne County think an "End of the fire season ball" is a good plan. Lets try it again.

Ed Minners
State Forest Ranger

PENTACHLOROPHENOL DEMONSTRATION

A fence post treatment demonstration was held on December 15th at the ranch of T. Wilcox near Cottonwood, California, in cooperation with the Shasta County Farm Advisor's Office.

Those attending were shown the cold soak process of treating pine fence posts with 5% pentachlorophenol in diesel fuel. Incising was explained and a homemade incising tool shown. Costs and handling problems were discussed and the advantages of the utilization of farm woodlot thinnings was brought before the group.

It was decided that similar demonstrations would be held in other parts of Shasta County as well as in other counties within the district.

H. B. Kaufner
Forest Technician

ELDORADO NEWS

Herewith is a bit of babble to be printed in the "News Letter", if it is considered fit material. It might possibly be a good idea to check it over for extraneous matter.

In order to get El Dorado County's hat in the ring, at least within District III, we hereby take great pride in announcing a new arrival, Christine Louise Moore, 7 lbs. 11 oz, born December 15th. Mother and daughter doing well. Daddy, however, we are unable to account for. He came rushing into the office on the morning of the 16th, made his announcement and ran screaming out the door. He hasn't been heard from since. Howard, incidentally, is (or was, if he never recovers) the Forest Practice Inspector in this county.

On December 19th, there foregathered high atop Mt. Danaher for the purpose of enjoying a Christmas party, a goodly number of Forestry employees, their wives and families. A total incidentally, of 50 - all hungry. Among those to seat themselves at the groaning festive board were Deputy Fred Dunow, erstwhile Fire Prevention Officer Raleigh Taylor, Dispatcher Joe Quinlan, Vivien Woods and "10-4" Bennetts from the District Office and quite a few from various parts of the State who were at one time employed in this county. An epicurean repast was ably concocted by that mistress of the culinary art, Mrs. H. B. McPherson, assisted by Mrs. Dixon and Mrs. Miller. What might have been a severe body blow to an already weakened mess account was diverted by donations from county personnel - a turkey by Ranger Dixon, pies, salads, etc. from others - to whom go our thanks.

One of the high spots of the afternoon was the presentation to Fred Dunow of his honorary Placerville Police Department badge. (Fred considers he now owns a 51% interest in the organization.)

A. W. Jones
Forest Fire Dispatcher

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

Deputy State Forester John Callaghan and family were visitors at our Auburn Headquarters on January 2 and 3. We are always happy to have John return to his former haunts but it seems that his visits always presage a series of misfortunes. On a previous visit in 1947 we had our first campaign fire of the year and on the second day of that

fire the most destructive fire of the year occurred when the Cal-Ida Lumber yard was consumed.

Following John's most recent visit we had three fires within 24 hours at a time when our fire occurrence normally is limited to about one fire every three weeks. The first was a minor conflagration in a sawdust bin at the same Cal-Ida mill. The second was a truck fire which resulted when the truck left the highway just below the Auburn station. The third was the most disastrous fire that we have encountered to date.

At 6:30 p.m. on January 4 we received two local calls from Auburn residents who stated that they had seen an object to the northeast which appeared to be a plane coming down in flames. Two trucks were dispatched from Auburn in the general direction of the reported location and one Assistant Ranger was sent from Colfax. The plane crash was located about 600 feet off of Ponderosa Way along the North Fork of the American River. The plane had caught fire while in the air and a wing and one engine had broken off, with the result that the balance of the plane plummeted to the earth in a tight spin with the centrifugal force apparently hurling all of the passengers to the rear of the fuselage where they were unable to reach the escape hatch. At this writing it appears that there were eight military personnel killed in the fire or resulting crash. The plane was a C-47 which was on a routine weather observation flight and was enroute from Ogden, Utah to McClellan Field.

Fire fighting efforts were greatly handicapped by the fact that subfreezing temperatures were encountered and the hose line froze up on the first attempt. A second line was laid through which water flow was maintained but very little could be done since the plane was so completely demolished by the fire and the impact. Quite by coincidence the crash took place near Ponderosa Way which afforded easy access for officials to the scene. This area consists of rather rugged terrain and the chances were very small that the crash should occur in such an accessible location.

We were happy to have also as visitors over the holidays two former District III employees who have since transferred to the sunny south, namely Tom Bryan from San Bernardino and Frank Weatherford from Orange County. Frank's visit was necessarily short since he arrived at a time when we were in the breaking-out stage with chicken pox and he quickly withdrew.

Like most of the rest of the state we have been in the throes of freezing temperatures with the mercury dropping to what some of the local people say is the lowest that they can remember. Also, not to be outdone by District VI we encountered an earthquake recently which appears to be possibly responsible for the cracking of seven or eight window panes in the lookout tower at Mt. Howell.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

STATE FORESTER'S SPEECH PRAISED

Ranger Lindley, being on annual leave, gives me a long awaited chance to write an article for the News Letter. It being my first, I am being very particular about what I write, therefore, select as my subject of discussion a very interesting speech that came in the mail recently.

"A SPEECH GIVEN BY DeWITT NELSON, STATE FORESTER AT THE STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING HELD IN SAN FRANCISCO, IN DECEMBER."

I particularly liked the way in which he started his talk comparing the present day water shortage, with that of the 49'ers and their problems. It really puts this

generation on the spot, either they come through with an idea to deal with the water problem or the 49'ers are one up on us. Also, his special interest in conserving all natural resources in order to further the advancement of California. He stressed the "STATE WIDE FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM", also, the future of the program, and I quote: "The job of fire prevention must be streamlined in the Division of Forestry". With experience we can more completely integrate this work with the host of other responsibilities we have. In a few years I hope to be able to say the Division personnel are taking advantage of every opportunity, whether it be in the field of education, hazard reduction, or law enforcement. To succeed in reducing the annual fire loss, every organized group in the State must share the responsibility of changing public opinion from one of indifference to one of personal concern. "Also, he brought out the fact that replacement of fire equipment is available for the first time in eight years.

Mr. Nelson, concludes his speech with: To my way of thinking we have proven this year that fire prevention, including the reduction of physical hazards, law enforcement, and public education, has helped reduce losses during 1948 - fire prevention has been my business - it should be your business, because it is a good business." Not because this talk was given by the Chief of our department, but I think it should be a "must" that every employee read and digest this paper.

The number of fires may be reduced but not weddings. "You know that tall good looking sandy haired Forestry Foreman Eugene Martin, from up north - Yreka way - was married in Hanford in December to Barbara Brownlee, of Yreka, I can see your point Gene, "BARBARA IS A HONEY". The wedding, was a lovely affair with flowers and everything, followed by a grand reception at the Lindley home. If any of you live near Gene, and Barbara, and need anything, don't hesitate to borrow from them as they received numerous useful things. "OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR YOU BOTH, MR. AND MRS. MARTIN."

Myrtle Boyd
Clerk & Dispatcher

FRESNO COUNTY REPORTS

The stork made a flying trip to Fresno County for the second time in less than thirty days. Arriving shortly after 8:00 A.M. on Monday, December 20th, he left a 7 lb. 3 oz. baby boy with Mr. and Mrs. David C. Saether. Dave, the proud Daddy, is one of th Schedule "A" drivers stationed at County Headquarters. The baby boy has been named David Saether, Jr.

Fresno County wishes to thank the unidentified writer (November News Letter), who wrote such nice things about us. We are glad that everyone enjoyed their stay with us and hope that they all return some day for another visit. By the way fellows, that 39¢ meal cost was wrong, we serve for less than that.

The Four-Step Method of Instructors Training, will be passed on to the personnel of Fresno County during a five-day training school to be held during January at County Headquarters.

Forms for the garage and warehouse at the Hurley Fire Control Station will be built and concrete poured during the early part of January.

This is a small world after all. During the recent training school held in Fresno, I had occasion to go into the Dispatchers office one evening and ran into Chuck Ulrey from San Bernardino. Chuck and I worked together years and years and years ago. You guessed it, lots of reminiscing during the remainder of the training period.

Maintenance of improvements is well under way in this county. Several of the stations are flashing new roof paint and the Coalinga District Headquarters received a complete paint job. Ace Walker, District IV Painter, deserves a lot of credit for a fine job.

The Christmas Tree situation this year was improved, but the waste is still very large. On Monday and Tuesday, December 27th and 28th, truck loads of unsold trees were observed being hauled away from the sales yards to be burned.

Cecil E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester, District IV, has returned from an extended pleasure and business trip. The trip took him to the Great Lakes region and through the deep south.

Ray Higgins
Associate Ranger

METCALF SUMMARIZES EASTERN TRIP

Many Division employees know that I took a trip back East during the latter part of November and most of December, and perhaps would like to know of some of my casual observations as it pertains to Forestry.

We left California on the night of November 17th with our destination as St. Paul, Minneapolis, thence to Michigan, and finally to California via Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Georgia, Florida, Missippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

The outstanding thing which impressed me as far as Forestry and Fire Prevention are concerned is the development of roadside picnic areas. I refer especially to development in Michigan where the most extensive roadside work is done and it is carried on by the highway department. There, areas are set aside with inexpensive improvements, such as tables, camp stoves, and sanitary facilities. In all of the so-called Southern or Dixie States, the same program is followed, with the exception that in these states the development consists of just tables and camp stoves. No water or sanitary facilities are furnished. In Florida these facilities are furnished by the State park system.

In my traveling over 5,000 miles on state highways through the states mentioned, there was hardily a stretch of highway 30 miles long that was not taken care of by furnishing some facilities for the traveling public—that is, where conditions were favorable, such as natural shade is concerned, and in many instances even shelters were constructed for shade. It seems peculiar that when California is inviting everyone to come here to enjoy her recreational wonders, especially during the Centennial year of 1949, that in no instance has any agency furnished facilities for picnikers along her main state highways or highly developed county highways. We ask those coming into our state during the high fire risk season to be extremely cautious, but we do nothing to help those people who want to picnic to abide by our fire laws. It is hoped that some organization will realize the seriousness of this situation and take some immediate action.

From casual observation, the Florida Forestry Department leads the other states in fire prevention propaganda, such as roadside signs, etc. I was favorably impressed with the interior finishing of the State Forester's office in Tallahassee, Florida, as they have used the same scheme as is used in the State Forester's Office in Oregon—and that is, using the native woods for interior finishing. In both

instances, these offices really impressed me and am sure they must impress the public in general. I am wondering if it would not be well for us to consider following this type of interior decoration in our new county and district offices which are now being constructed and those to be constructed in the future. As to forestry, we have everything in California they have anywhere else--and a lot more.

In looking through the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, D.C. and in going through the department where different woods are displayed, I came upon a colored picture of Woody Metcalf stripping cork oak from a tree at Kearney Park, Fresno, California. He has not explained to me why he would allow his picture to be displayed in such a prominent place when he doesn't have on even an undershirt. You ask him.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

A LETTER OF THANKS TO RANGER GEORGE BRITTON

"I want to formally express our sincere appreciation of your gracious hospitality a week ago Sunday when our party from the Adult Center visited your station at Alma."

"I know you went to considerable trouble to make these arrangements, and we appreciate the kind cooperation of both yourself and the men stationed at your headquarters in making the trip so interesting and informative. I am sure our people have much greater appreciation of the splendid work being done by the men of the service, which is such a vital part of our own lives, though we little realize it."

"It is our hope that at some future time it may be possible to see more of the fine pictures you have taken. I understand the pictures of some of the fires you have suppressed are quite outstanding, and at some future date it may be possible for us to either visit you again or have you attend one of our meetings here at the school."

"Again my sincere thanks for all you did for us."

Very truly yours,

s/ H. Price Webb, Coordinator
Distributive Education
San Jose Unified School District

SANTA CLARA HEADQUARTERS HOST TO FORESTRY CLASS

Last Saturday morning 85 members of the Forestry Class of the San Jose College visited Alma Station where they were divided into three groups and talks were given by Ranger Britton, Associate Ranger Nash and Assistant Ranger Sharpe and Foreman Garza on the different functions and activities of our organization. The program was concluded with the showing of the various fire films of our roadside hazard reduction work in some of the winter work projects.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. at which time Professor Jacobs expressed his appreciation for the courtesy extended him and the class here at Alma.

George Britton
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI

The month of December saw some of District VI Headquarters personnel vacationing. Deputy Mace and family spent the holidays at Ione, a superb of Sacramento, whose population - we understand - is made up entirely of the Mace's kinsfolk. Assistant Deputy Bertsch and family sojourned to Phoenix, Arizona, and was amazed to find Arizona weather much the same as we experienced here in Southern California (Not good). Our Personnel Clerk, Louise Fitzgerald, vacationed in Florida and found that not even Florida could boast of their usually wonderful winters. Holding down the fort with his usual dispatch and efficiency was Associate Ranger Jack Burke. From all indications, each and everyone spent very enjoyable holidays.

Now that everyone is rested and once again on the job, we are all determined to make this year an even better one than last; one filled with accomplishments evidence of a job well done. The wheels of progress are turning in tune with deadlines and anticipated projects.

In the next issue of the News Letter, District VI hopes to be able to once again boast of their summer-like winter. We are at present at a loss to explain the reason for such freezing weather.

District VI Headquarters

NEWS FROM CAMP ELLIOTT

Winter is blowing its cold breath down the necks of the residents, even in sunny Southern California and the Forestry personnel are starting to relax for the holiday season before they put on their working clothes for the winter projects. For the crew at Camp Elliott on the structural crews; however, it is a period of intensified training for winter brings the structural season.

Also, we will be having a new crew to train this month, so it just goes to prove the old saying - "There's no rest for the wicked!"

Frank M. Anderson, Assistant Ranger

WHO's WHO??????

An engineer is said to be a man who knows a great deal about very little and who goes along learning more and more about less and less until finally he knows practically everything about nothing.

A salesman, on the other hand, is a man who knows a very little about many things and keeps learning less and less about more and more until he knows practically nothing about everything.

A purchasing agent starts out knowing practically everything about everything about everything but ends up knowing nothing about nothing due to his association with engineers and salesmen.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Courtesy of: H. A. "Bert" Holcomb
Radio Technician
LaMesa Headquarters

THE SATIRICAL PATROLMAN!

This I am about to relate is not new to the old and salty legions of field men who every year patrol their respective districts; but, let us revive the topic with respect to fledgling patrolmen like myself. As you may recall, San Diego County appointed four of us impressionable young men to be patrolmen and as you can well imagine, the horizons were limitless, the possibilities were beyond description. In short, friends, we were out to do big things !!! Ah, the glory of it all!!!

On hitting the trail away over the back roads of said County, I spotted a wisp of smoke blossoming out of the distant scene. As it is high noon, I mentally deduct that all is not as it should be and swiftly go over my instructions, enumerating each until I run out of fingers. Not bothering to take off my shoes to continue to count, I decide on a frontal attack on this flagrant fire law violator that I have come to give the gospel to. At this moment, my exalted position in life is very enviable indeed. This graven hardened soul who has the audacity to burn in the middle of the day, contrary to rules, turns out to be a sweet looking old lady that anyone would be proud to call Grandma, but with only a slight pause I proceed because I have journeyed from afar with glad tidings to help all mankind. After the customary formalities I point out the beauties of nature, the danger of fire, and expound dramatically and loudly on caution. She says not a word. Working myself into the spirit of the thing, I roll on and on until, out of breath, I finish telling of the ravages of forest fires. At this point she softly announces that she has a valid open hour permit and all is according to hoyle. My exalted and enviable position is no longer the thing it used to be. Driving rather swiftly and definitely away, I make a mental note to let the customer have his say before I start mine.

The next unfortunate person to be enlightened by my visit is a large gentleman of ample proportions, burning a huge pile of brush with a pencil thin control line separating it from a heavy chapparal covered mountain. As the wind is blowing about 30 m.p.h., I consider the whole thing worthy of my personal remarks commencing with the time worn method of asking the customer if he realizes the danger. I am stopped cold in my tracks as he gives vent to a senatorian roar - "Son" he bellows as my John B. goes spinning from my head, "You don't know what fire is."

I take this tidbit and mull it over awhile. "Son", he starts off again, "I fought big bad forest fires when you were still wearing three-cornered pants".

I feel my pants for reassurance, for as far as I am concerned, this conversation has gotten slightly out of hand.

"Ah can remember back to the fire of '99 and ah was a forest ranger myself!" He sounds like Senator Foghorn, with emphasis on the "Horn", but as I said before, I am an impressionable young man.

"Thar ah was, fire all around and ah, the people's only hope". My mouth hung open, "But with mah indomitable courage, ah saved them all." I closed my mouth, "But it was plenty scary, son", I had chills, "Listen boy", says he, "You asked me if ah knows anything about fire", I hung my head, "Jest ya come up and let me tell ya about it sometime."

As I drive away, I try to think who the bird was that told me a patrolman's job is a racket.

The Fourth of July is a time of year that never fails to thrill the kiddies, but brings headaches to honorable and respected "noggins" of foresters throughout the

country. Our assignment of this festive occasion needs no explanation; but there I am out looking for wayward individuals. With the fall of night our interest is aroused by an amazing display of sparklers from a local campground. Doing my duty, as ordered, I find myself in the midst of a group of very small tots, their hands full of the appropriate pyrotechnics for the occasion.

"Yes, madam", I say, "Unfortunately, I must ask you to take those things away from the mites because those items are strictly forbidden in forest areas." I glance around to see four pairs of tear-filled eyes. I take an ogre's glance and go into my tirade. The eyes begin to spill over and I feel as though Dracula and I are buddies of long standing. The sobs are heart rending as I clank my chains, swirl my black cloak around me and drive away. Yeah, this guy's a rat!

This is a whimsical summary of this year's work, but with all kidding aside, we four patrolmen feel that our work has not been in vain. The letter and word "I" in this, should not be misconstrued to mean myself, but to represent all the men in the field doing patrol work on just such an average day as this. THANKS LADS!!!

Raymond Banks
Forest Firefighter Foreman Patrolman

INSECT CONTROL PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Rumor has it that a revolt is brewing in the San Diego County Headquarters Office. Nothing official has been issued from that office, however, in an interview with "Miss Beetle of 1948", it was learned that the fair sex of that office are donning battle dress for the oncoming revolution. The girls are slightly annoyed at the "Bugmen". Last year, rumor has it, all the men connected with the "Battle of the Bugs" had a wonderful time playing in the snow up to their knees and chopping down trees along with splitting their toes. While in the office, the girls slaved over hot typewriters making out the miles of forms necessary for the demise of each beetle family. The girls are tired of climbing the mountains of paperwork connected with this "Battle." This year, the girls want to share in the fun, they want to play in the snow, they want to enjoy the wonderful mountain air. Could be they would like some of the wonderful food that was served last year too. (But they didn't say anything about this). So, the girls are planning to take over the field work and let the big bugmen take over the office.

As yet this reporter has been unable to confirm these rumors, but I wonder how the "Ips" would react to the "New Look"!!

"Bessie Beetle"

The following lyrics have been provided by Leona "Cole Porter" Mingo, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, San Diego County Headquarters, to be sung to the tune of "Springtime in the Rockies":

When its "Bug Time" in the mountains,
We'll be coming back to you
Little Ips Engraver Beetles
In the pines you love to chew.

Once again we'll hunt and kill you,
We will chop and burn and treat,
We'll keep on until we find you
And your kinsfolk small and great.

We're tired of seeing our trees die,
We want them to stay green.
So we'll work and slave to keep them,
Even though you think us mean.

When its "Bug Time" in the mountains,
We'll be coming back to your
Little Ips Engraver Beetles,
But please do not feel blue.

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### NAVAL STORES EXTRACTED FROM PONDEROSA PINE STUMPWOOD

Tests have shown that a ton of Ponderosa pine stumpwood has an average yield of more than 500 pounds of extract compared with a yield of about 600 pounds from southern pine stumpwood, according to Dr. Arthur B. Anderson, formerly engaged in research for the Western Pine Association but now attached to the Oregon Lumber Company.

Dr. Anderson discussed the recovery of naval stores from Ponderosa pine stumps at a recent meeting of the American Chemical Society in Portland, Oregon.

Tar, rosin, turpentine, and numerous other extractives are obtained from stumps of the southern pine species, and it is thought that after some further research to evaluate the Ponderosa pine naval stores products it will be feasible to extract them on a commercial basis.

Forestry News - January, 1949

### SOUTH PUTS EIGHT MILLION MORE ACRES UNDER PROTECTION

According to J. Herbert Stone, U. S. Southern Regional Forester, the eleven southern states will spend approximately $8,000,000 this year to protect their woods from fire—about $1,300,000 more than last year. Of this amount, the federal government will contribute $2,697,000 under the cooperative state-federal Clarke-McNary fire protection law. The remainder will come from state, county, and private funds. These figures do not include amounts to be used in fire protection on the Southern National Forests.

Mr. Stone said that the bigger budget would enable the states to expand fire protection to an additional 8,000,000 acres, bringing the South's total protected acreage of non-federal forest lands to nearly 100,000,000.

Over 73,500,000 acres or 43 percent of woodlands remain unprotected in the South despite this year's progress, Stone said. This represents about 75 percent of the Nation's total unprotected forest land.

Forestry News - January, 1949

### PARK REVENUES AT NEW HIGH

The revenues of the National Park System and other areas administered by the National Park Service reached a new record high during the 1948 fiscal year, with a total of $3,303,327, Director Newton B. Drury has announced. This is an increase of $379,741 over 1947 receipts.

The 1948 revenues amounted to approximately 53 percent of the cost of administration, protection, and maintenance of the 180 areas administered by the National Park Service during the year. All receipts are covered into the United States Treasury, and are not available for expenditure by the Service, whose operation are wholly dependent on appropriated funds.

Forestry News, January-1949

PULP MILL ELIMINATES WASTE BY USING MAGNESIUM OXIDE

A new process in the manufacture of sulphite wood pulp has been announced by Howard W. Morgan, manager of the Pulp Division, Wyerhaeuser Timber Company.

The new method, now being used at Weyerhaeuser's Longview, Washington operation, allows more complete utilization of Pacific Northwest timber species through recovery from waste pulping liquors of chemicals used in the production of sulphite pulp, and steam and power energy from organic solids in solution. As a result, stream pollution resulting from waste liquors being discharged into streams will be eliminated.

Forestry News, January, 1949

OREGON VOTERS APPROVE REFORESTATION BILL

Oregon voters approved a state constitutional amendment on November 2, that enables the legislature and board of forestry to issue bonds to finance "state forest rehabilitation, reforestation and acquisition of lands."

The measure was the second and concluding phase of a broad forestry program presented to the 1947 legislature by the late Governor Earl Snell and his specially appointed forestry committee.

The first part was enacted by the 1947 legislature, a five cents a thousand levy on all forest products harvested in the state — the proceeds to go 60 per cent to the forest products laboratory at Oregon State College and 40 per cent to the State board of forestry for research in forest rehabilitation and management.

The measure just approved by the voters makes the reforestation part of the Snell program possible. Under it general obligation bonds not to exceed 3/4 of one per cent of the total state assessed valuation can be issued for carrying out a long-range program of getting state forest lands into the productive condition desired.

Forestry Digest, December, 1948

ELLERY FOSTER LAUNCHES DRIVE TO PUT FORESTRY INTO FORESTS

Announcing that he had resigned as director of research for the International Woodworkers of America (C.I.O.), Ellery Foster in November launched a new program called "Task Force to put Forestry into the Forests."

According to the new plant it is proposed, first, that a complete system of logging roads be developed immediately, that a plan for the current inventory and selection of trees for logging by trained foresters be set up, and that the sale of such trees for logging by private operators be on the basis of equal opportunity.

The second part of the program, dealing with the management of private forests, would provide a program of assistance and inventives, including low-cost credit,

conservation payments, and technical assistance.

"The task of TF-FIF is to educate the public and especially the politicans to do what it takes to put real forestry into the forests," stated Mr. Foster.

He advocates that federal agencies and private individuals place "necessary forestry restrictions" on the title to forest land rather than sell it in fee simple, and thinks that the government should offer incentive payments to get the private owners to so restrict the title to their land.

A Member of the Society of American Foresters, Foster, who is 43, was at one time state forester of his native Minnesota and was employed for 16 years by the U.S. Forest Service. His headquarters for the drive to put "forestry into the forests where it counts most, namely in connection with logging operations" will be at Lake Grove, Oregon.

Forestry News, January, 1949

NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS DOUBLE LAST YEAR'S FIGURES

Receipts from the operation of national forests for the three months ending September 30, were almost double those for the corresponding period last year, the Forest Service has reported.

Of the total receipts, the returns from timber sales, up 17 percent in volume, amounted to $9,774,681 as compared with $5,253,618 for the corresponding quarter last year.

All national forest receipts are deposited in the Treasury of the United States. Twenty-five percent of the receipts, except for a few minor exceptions covered by special legislation, is returned in lieu of taxes to the States in which the forests are located, to be used for schools and roads. An additional 10 percent from each State is allocated to the Forest Service for construction and maintenance of roads and trails within the forests situated in the State.

Forestry News, January, 1949

INTERIOR SELLS BILLION FEET

A total of 1,247,683,000 board feet of timber valued at $6,861,056 was cut on Department of Interior land during the 1948 fiscal year. This was an average value of $5.49 per thousand board feet, as compared with $4.56 per thousand in 1947.

Forestry News, January, 1949

January 1949 Vol. 8 No. 1

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

## STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



## MEMO TO ALL DIVISION OF FORESTRY PERSONNEL

Interest in and support of the News Letter has shown encouraging progress since the Letter was revived many months ago. As a medium of regular contact for all personnel in all parts of the State, its services cannot be minimized if all of us take full advantage of showing current forestry problems, events, and interesting experiences thru its pages. Many of you have contributed to its value regularly - others have never taken the opportunity. I want to emphasize again the fact that the Letter is for you in the field. It gives you the opportunity of sharing with all personnel current problems and events that will help us all do a better job for the people of California. Your Editor is able to spend but eight hours a month on its preparation - your contribution, therefore, must be factual, as brief as possible, and of interest to all personnel. It will be thru your continued interest that we can make the News Letter an informative monthly summary of forestry problems and current events.

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester

The California Division of Forestry
News Letter is published monthly in
Sacramento for and by Division personnel.
Its pages contain current facts, problems,
and events relating to forestry and to the
experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

JANUARY HIGH LIGHTS

Christmas tree utilization reports that have been received from the field this month indicate that only 11% of the two and one-half to three million Christmas trees reaching California's 1948 yuletide markets went unsold. It is estimated that of the two and one-half to three million trees on the California Christmas market but 600,000 are actually cut from forest lands of California, the remainder being imported from the Pacific Northwest area. To arrive at these utilization figures field personnel of the Division sampled some 456 Christmas tree lots in rural and urban areas in all parts of the State. The resulting statistical study showed that there was an 83% utilization of white fir, 92% red fir, 89% Douglas fir, and 67% other species. The great bulk of trees shipped in from out of State are Douglas fir. It will be recalled that in past years waste of Christmas trees has been as high as 25% of the stock reaching the market.

It is at this time of the year that activity reaches a high pitch at the State Nursery near Davis. Late winter months are ideal for tree shipping and planting. The nursery employees are engaged in lifting and shipping quantities of seedlings, more than 60,000 of which have been produced at the nursery this year. In addition to this quantity some 20,000 coniferous seedlings have been grown at the branch nursery adjacent to the Whitmore CYA Camp in Shasta County. As indicated last month, a large part of these seedlings are being shipped to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation for erosion control planting on the Keswick Dam watershed in Shasta County.

To aid in streamlining the forest nursery activities of the Division, a technical forester recently employed as Forest Advisor in the District III area, has been transferred from this district and will work with our Nursery Supervisor in an effort to produce at cheaper costs and in larger quantity tree seedlings more adaptable for watershed and erosion control, production of forest products and farm woodlots, shelter belt and wind break purposes. Less emphasis will be placed on ornamental and landscape types that in past years have been produced in quantity for public planting.

The practical "Redwood Forest Handbook" that was prepared and published some six months ago by the Division has received a great deal of favorable comment from foresters and lumbermen throughout the redwood region and in all parts of the U. S. Because of widespread interest in this handbook, the Division, in cooperation with the Western Pine Association, has laid plans for the preparation of a similar forest handbook for the California Pine Region. The material will be written and edited by our District III Forest Advisor in cooperation with the California representative of the Western Pine Association. Suggestions and contributions for the text are presently being received from technical forestry men throughout the Pine region.

Registration certificates required of private timber operators under Chapter 85, Stats. of 1945, of the Forest Practice Act, are pouring into the Sacramento Office this month. Some 810 registrations were processed last year and a special effort is being made this year to reach operators who have in the past neglected to comply with this law.

Two important critiques were held this month by Division personnel; one to review and discuss fire suppression and control problems that occurred on the Pine Mountain fire in Santa Cruz County; the other to discuss similar problems experienced on the Green River Fire in Orange County. These critiques

known as
are/Boards of Fire Review and are held for the express purpose of improving methods and technic of controlling large campaign fires. By close analyzing of fire suppression tactics used, protection personnel gain valuable knowledge that will help when faced with similar problems in the future.

Requisitions were processed and purchase orders written this month for the purchase of new, additional, and replacement radio equipment included in the 100th Fiscal Year Budget. These documents are presently in the hands of the Division of Communications of the Department of Finance and it is hoped that this Division will expedite the purchase of equipment in order that it can be received and installed prior to the 1949 fire season.

A survey was instigated this month to ascertain present coverage ranges of existing radio repeater installations of the Division's radio network. From the survey the Division expects to determine the necessary locations of future repeater installations needed to obtain maximum communication efficiency for our fire protection responsibility area. The survey is being conducted by Supervising Radio-Telephone Technician of the Division in cooperation with the Division of Communications of the Department of Finance.

The Fire Control Office has been engaged in completing the forest fire statistical summary for the year and the material should be ready for printing by late February or early March. Office personnel have also overhauled the fire control manual that governs the administration of fire suppression activities throughout the State. The revised edition in completed form will be ready for distribution to the field in March.

Construction reports from the field show ranger headquarter office buildings at Susanville, Lassen County; Nevada City, Nevada County; and Mariposa in Mariposa County are more than 75% complete and should be ready for occupancy prior to the fire season.

Work has progressed satisfactorily on the construction of the bridge over Soquel Creek in Santa Cruz County and when complete the bridge construction crew will move to the Hinkley Creek crossing in the same county.

The Sacramento Office Engineering Staff has been handicapped in its work this month through the loss of two of its employees, one of whom has transferred to the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, and the other having transferred to the Division of Water Resources.

## BOARD OF FORESTRY HOLDS FEBRUARY MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO

The California State Board of Forestry will meet in San Francisco on February 16 and 17. Wednesday's agenda includes a discussion of the Forest Practice Rules with representatives of private industry, report on the Boggs Mountain purchase, proposed legislation, the budget, Farm Forestry Report, Federal legislation, and a discussion of the contemplated watershed survey.

Thursday's discussion will center around the Range Management Program including a summary of the range improvement activity of 1948, a report of the Range Advisory Committee, and a discussion with representatives of the livestock industry of the overall range improvement program.

The board meeting will be followed on Friday by a meeting of Deputy State Foresters in the State Building, San Francisco.

PARTIAL SUMMARY OF FORESTRY LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN 1949 SESSION

SB 142- Regan

An act to amend the heading of Article 4, Chapter 1 of Division 4 in Section 4126 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the closing of parks in forestry areas.

SB 143 - Regan and Judah

An act to add Section 4006.5 to the Public Resources Code, relating to cooperative agreements re reforestation.

SB 144 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4433 of the Public Resources Code, relating to State payments to counties in lieu of taxes on lands acquired for State Forests.

SB 145 - Regan

An act to add Section 4128 to the Public Resources Code, relating to orders closing park and forestry areas, making the violation thereof a misdemeanor.

SB 146 - Regan

An act to amend Section 602 of the Penal Code, relating to trespassing.

SB 246 - Dorsey

An act to add Sections 25643 and 25644 to the Government Code, relating to the powers of Boards of Supervisors of each county to give fire protection.

SB 1117 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4004 of the Public Resources Code, relating to State fire prevention and suppression.

SB 247 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4001 of the Public Resources Code, relating to peace officers who enforce fire laws.

SB 248 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4151 of the Public Resources Code, relating to campfire permits.

SB 249 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4165 of the Public Resources Code, relating to fire protection and regulating the disposal of waste material.

SB 250 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4167 of the Public Resources Code, relating

to fire hazards in the vicinity of forest, brush, grass, or grain covered land.

SB 254 - Regan

An act to amend Section 44 of the Vehicle Code, relating to emergency vehicles.

SB 328 - Regan

An act to amend Section 4004 of the Public Resources Code, relating to State fire prevention and suppression.

AB 110 - Crichton

An act to repeal Section 384A of the Penal Code, to add Chapter 7 comprising Sections 4900 to 4916 to Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the removal of plants and other substances on public or private lands on rights-of-way utilizing the control of Christmas tree traffic in the Division of Forestry providing for revenue of its administration and enforcement and prescribing penalities of the violation thereof.

AB 251 - Heisinger

An act to amend Section 602 and 627 of the Penal Code, relating to trespassing.

AB 378 - Beck

An act to add certain sections to amended sections of the Health and Safety Code, relating to county fire protection districts.

AB 402 - Smith

An act to amend Section 3102 of the Labor Code, relating to workmens compensation.

AB 574 - Cramer

An act to add sections 4004.5 to the Public Resources Code, relating to the use of State firefighting equipment.

AB 628 - Luckel, Barry, and others.

An act to amend Section 600 of the Vehicle Code, relating to throwing lighted substances from or upon a highway.

AB 1775 - Lindsay

An act to add Chapter 2.1, comprising Sections 4406 to 4411 inclusive, to Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the controlled use of fire and making an appropriation.

AB 2969 - Lowrey

An act to add Section 4884 to the Public Resources Code, relating

to control burning of brush covered land and making an appropriation to the Division of Forestry, Department of Natural Resources, to carry out the provisions of this act.

AB 2509 - Stewart

An act to provide for a survey of mountain watersheds as they affect California's water supply to be made by the Division of Forestry, Department of Natural Resources, and making an appropriation therefore.

CONSERVATION WEEK - March 7 to 14, 1949

California's annual Conservation Week will again be observed this year during the period March 7 to 14th. General Chairman for the week is Warren T. Hannum, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, who is asking government and private organizations to actively support the period by co-operating with interested civic and community groups, the press, and the radio in bringing to the attention of all Californians current conservation problems and events. The Division of Forestry will actively participate throughout the State in working with schools and community groups in emphasizing the wise use of natural resources. The week is annually sponsored by the California Conservation Council in cooperation with government and private organizations and the schools of California to emphasize the necessity of a year round educational program in acquainting Californians with the need of wise use of the basic resources of the State.

MACE AUTHOR OF JOURNAL ARTICLE

"Southern California Watershed Protection Problems" is title of an article by James K. Mace, District Deputy, in the December issue of the Journal of Forestry.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. Can you name two wild plants which are members of the pea family and considered excellent forage for livestock?

2. Can you name a common broad leafed annual which is one of the leading forage plants in California?

3. What river in California is considered as providing the principal drainage for the Redwood region?

4. When a firetruck is responding to a fire call, how close may other cars follow without violation of the law?

5. Under the law, can the State Nursery provide growing stock for re-forestation of private lands?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #12, VOL. 7 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. The area of the State of California is approximately 100 million acres.

2. Of the total acreage of the State approximately 1/3 is given fire protection by the Division. This figure includes areas protected under agreement with counties.

3. Digger pine is the Sierra foothill pine commonly referred to as "bull pine". It is not uncommon to hear any species of conifer referred to as "bull pine", however.

4. The following are common names of three species of California brush that are valuable stock forage plants: Mountain Mohogany (Cercocarpus betuloides) Bitter Brush (Purshia tridentada), Deer Brush (Ceanothus integerrimus) blue brush or sometimes incorrectly called Sweet brush.

5. No. The lands of California have been classified for the purpose of determining the areas in which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires is primarily that of the State. The prevention and suppression of fires in all areas not so classified is primarily the responsibility of local or Federal agencies. For administrative purposes, the Board of Forestry has enumerated those lands adjudged to be a State responsibility as Zones 1 and II. Because of the National importance of certain primary timber and watershed lands in California, the Federal Government gives monetary assistance to the State for fire prevention and suppression. The lands so classified by the Federal Government are called Clarke McNary Lands and are synonymous with Zone I.

OPERATION'S CHANGES

Herschel Norton transferred on January 26 to the Division of Fish and Game as Supervising Account Clerk. Congratulations on the promotion, Herschel, and happy landings.

George I. Hacker transferred from the Department of Social Welfare to take Herky's job as Senior Clerk.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT I COLLECTS 90# OF REDWOOD SEED!

All during the Fall of 1948 there were rumors of an influx of squirrels to the loft of District I Warehouse. Strange bustlings and rustlings led to further investigation, and the entire loft was found to be covered with redwood cones which periodically disappeared only to be replaced with more.

When the Assistant Technicians claimed they could understand the squirrels in the redwood groves, it became clear that District I's seed collection program was well under way.

The crop of redwood cones was average or better, but Douglas fir was almost a complete failure.

Only squirrel-cut redwood cones were collected, since seed from these is higher in germination, and cones are gathered easier than in the case of cones from falling operations.

Certain groves are consistently good year after year. Apparently, only particular trees produce cones, others never bearing any. Once a productive tree was located, it would be good for a number of days.

It is interesting to note that cones from different trees show marked characteristics in size, shape, length of scale prickle, and roughness of surface. The same tree produces the same kind of cone each year.

The largest redwood cones discovered so far have come from a tree in the Lane Grove in Humboldt County, and a tree in Armstrong Grove in Sonoma County. These averaged about 1.7 inches in length when dry, and a count of seeds from 10 cones gave a figure of 274 seeds per cone.

783 manhours were spent to collect 719½# of green cones, which yielded 90# of clean dry seed. It took 8# of green cones to yield 1# of clean dry seed.

Percentages of components based on green weight of cones were moisture - 62.0%, dry empty cones - 24.0%, clean dry seed - 12.5%, Tannic Acid crystals - 1.5%.

Drying and processing has now been completed, and the seed shipped to the State nursery for storage.

Bob Maclean
Forest Advisor

WINTER IN LASSEN COUNTY

Winter has come to Lassen County. For the past month sub-zero temperatures as low as 16 degrees below zero have been registered.

Not that we of Lassen County object to cold weather. The objectors usually migrate, "QUICK". But there are minor difficulties encountered frequently, such as tempermental pickups and frozen water pipes in the office, (and at home).

The local "Sour Doughs" have discovered a water softener which overcomes the frozen water pipe problem, much to the discomfort of our County Schedule "A" firetruck driver however.

A recent incident occurred at the Lassen Dairy just north of Susanville. Bob O'Kelly, the manager had frozen water pipes in the house. He went to get out his efficient "water softener", namely the "blow torch", and lights it up. About that time visitors arrived at the O'Kelly home and Bob goes into the parlor to say hello. After a brief conversation, the visitor remarks "It is getting terribly hot in here", and takes off his overcoat. That reminds Bob O'Kelly that he had some unfinished business in the back room.

Well to make a long story short, the visitor never had time to regain his overcoat as the 30 mile wind immediately fanned the flames to the entire house.

There was no loss of life but they "lowered the boom" on O'Kelly, the loss was estimated at $15,000.

When Ranger Bill Mann brought relief for Firetruck Driver J. K. Barker and myself he found us "cool as could be", but practically immobilized by the sheets of ice that had frozen to our clothing. However, after a hot shower and a few cups of coffee Lassen County didn't seem half bad.

Little did we know that the ordeal was to be repeated again soon. Shortly after midnight the telephone roused me from fitfull slumber. This time it was at the "Urianaguena Ranch" 6 miles East of Susanville. Arriving in the pickup I found three structures in flames and Foreman Dick Walker and Driver J. K. Barker chopping through a foot of ice to reach water in the cattle trough.

I immediately telephoned Headquarters for Driver Fred Trask to bring No. 2 truck. This proved to be a fortunate move as we were never able to draft with No. 1 due to frozen pipes.

When No. 2 arrived the pump was also frozen although it also had a blanket tied over it. A little encouragement with the blow torch did it. We picked up a draft and saved the Day -- or "Night" rather.

If this sort of thing keeps on, the boys of Lassen County are considering asking for a winter bonus.

Harold C. Rolland
Assistant State Ranger

AIR FORCE ACKNOWLEDGES ASSISTANCE IN PLACER COUNTY

"Ranger Emery Sloat, Placer County received the following letter from Major General Junius W. Jones, McClellan Air Force Base, California:

' 13 January 1949

'I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered by your office on the night of 4 January 1949 at the scene of the crash of one of our C-47 aircraft near Weimar, California.

'The immediate response of your personnel and their early arrival at the scene is a tribute to their ability to accomplish their assigned duties and indicates the efficiency of your organization. Mr. Sloat, Mr. Charles Wagener, Mr. Jack Amundsen, Mr. Frank Jenkins, and Mr. Jack Cullumber were particularly helpful. There are undoubtedly others who also rendered assistance, perhaps away from the scene, whose names I do not have. Will you please express my appreciation to all individuals of your Division.'"

Fred M. Dunow
Deputy State Forester

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

In a previous issue we spoke of the District VI influence being felt in these parts in the form of an earthquake. Recently we have had more Southern California influence as represented by snow storms. As this is written we have just had the third snowfall within three weeks, which is something of a record for Auburn and which will weaken the strength of the local motto of "Above the fog and below the snow".

Since our last transmittal we have continued to experience the unusual happenings that have been occurring in unprecedented numbers during the past year or so. Recently, upon the conclusion of a day's run on a radio test one

of our units did not return to its base. Thinking that they may have had minor motor trouble or had stopped on the way in for dinner, we waited until 9:00 p.m. and then started a searching party. The area where the unit was last reported had some eighteen inches of snow on the level and about 2:00 a.m. of the morning of our search additional snow began to fall. About 4:00 a.m. we found the unit with its occupants intact and then we began the task of getting them out of their snow bound condition. In our Operation "Snow Bound" the Power Wagon played an all-important role, and after Herculean efforts on the part of the Power Wagon and the personnel all units were returned safely to Auburn at 11:00 p.m. the following night. Ironically enough, we had made arrangements to put on a movie for a local organization on another night later that week and the movie was "Snow Harvest". All concerned are in agreement that while snow is undoubtedly of great benefit, it is a disturbing factor in the successful culmination of radio tests.

Shortly after this occurrence, a sharp metallic crashing and crunching sound was heard on the highway just below the office and investigation revealed that a doe had been hit by a car and injured so severely that her recovery was impossible. In fact, during the time that we called the Game Warden and were getting our rifle out of the closet, the doe passed into better lands. Quite a little of the meat was rendered useless by the force of the impact, but with the blessing of the local Game Warden, we salvaged the balance for use in our messhall in a frenzied attempt to counteract the high cost of living.

Then one evening when things were abnormally quiet, a youth came to the door to request help in getting a boy up from the river where he had nearly drowned when a raft had upset. The accident had occurred at a point where there was no road to the river and getting him up the canyon in the darkness through the brush took some little time. Fortunately, the boy suffered no permanent ill effects from his dunking and subsequent exposure to the chill air.

Along with these occurrences, the regular work has continued on the remodeling of the Auburn office. Also, an instructor's training course was held at Auburn by Assistant Ranger Jerry Reinecker as a follow-through on the training class given by Tommy Ward. After following Assistant Ranger Weselsky's demonstration on how to fit a new blade into a Gillette razor, we have become more conscious of our actions and find now that the morning ablutions take approximately seventeen minutes longer than they did before.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

PERSONNEL SHIFT IN TUOLUMNE COUNTY

The members of the Tuolumne County Division of Forestry gathered for a triple-honored surprise party on Sunday evening, January 23rd, at the Sonora Headquarters. The "Occasions"? Well, there was the "Going-Away" party for the Clinton B. Phillips family. Clint has been one of the Assistnat Rangers and the Forest Practice Man in Tuolumne County. He has transferred to way up north, Cresent City, Del Norte County. The family was sent on their way with many good wishes, and a lovely gift from the fellow workers. Then there was the "Welcoming" of the new Assistant Ranger Donald M. Roleder, who is being transferred to Tuolumne County from Butte County.

Don is no stranger in these parts - having been with the State Division of Forestry in Sonora as a Foreman early in 1948. And the third Occasion for this party, and this was the cause of much grumbling and growling that Ed Minners and his Associate Bert Harris have been doing around Tuolumne County of late, was the "Surprise charivari" for Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Sinclair. It seems that Ed and Bert had just trained an attractive office clerk, when a new Assistant Ranger was transferred to Tuolumne County from "Down South". He being a single fellow and susceptible to feminine charms, the two were soon "That way" about each other. Then came the cause of the grumbling. On January 7, 1949, in a quiet ceremony at the Methodist Church in Sonora, the new Assistant Ranger, Stew Sinclair, - undermined, back-stabbed, two-timed -(those are only a few of the uncensored words that Ed Minners and Bert Harris have for calling it)- well, in other words, Stew married their clerk, formerly Anne Wilsey. The couple were the recipients of much "rice, laughter, good wishes" and a lovely gift from the rest of the group.

Ranger Minners says good deals came double in the month of December with the transfer of the two "Cliffs" to Tuolumne County. There was Driver Cliff Rankin, and Foreman Cliff Neal transferred to Tuolumne County from Placer County. Welcome Cliffs!!

S. L. Sinclair
Assistant Ranger

NEWS FROM FRESNO COUNTY

Twenty-seven Fresno County and District IV staff members completed the 40-hour course in Instructors Training at Fresno County Headquarters on February 4.

District Deputy C. E. Metcalf and Assistant Deputy Wm. Jacobsen were frequent guests during the five day meeting.

Since the group was a large one, it was divided into two groups for ease in instructing. Associate Ranger A. Filippini and Associate Ranger R. R. Higgins were the instructors.

We, of Fresno County, extend our thanks to Associate Ranger Filippini for giving so much of his time to help make the school a success.

Associate Ranger Norman Nicholsen of the Coalinga District, assisted by Sheriff's Deputy Nevins and Poole and Foreman Sprague, searched for a lost mine employee last week and found the man dead in a canyon not far from the mine where he was employed. Freezing temperatures were encountered during the search and no doubt was instrumental in hastening the death of the man after he had fallen down a steep bluff.

Ask Associate Ranger C. E. Lindley of Kings County how easy it is to find fires in Fresno County. One Sunday evening, recently, Curt was on his way from Visalia to Hanford, when he discovered a glow in the sky, to the north, thinking it was a large fire in the City of Fowler. He turned in that direction and drove and drove and drove, finally reaching the scene of the fire, 7 miles north of Fresno in the little community of Pinedale

6300 bales of cotton were on fire in a warehouse owned by Congressman Cecil White. The damage from the fire was near the $1,500,000 mark. The

fire was confined to three warehouses, one of which was totally destroyed.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

HARRAH HONORED AT DINNER

Raymond G. Harrah, who recently retired after serving with the Division of Forestry since 1932, was honored by approximately 60 District IV employees and their families at a potluck dinner and program at the Madera Headquarters barracks January 8. Harrah resigned in July of last year because of ailing health and since that time has been recuperating at his ranch in the Madera foothills near Raymond. He served in both the field and Madera county office since 1932 and during his work contacted and made many forestry friends throughout the State. At the party the gang in District IV presented him with retirement gifts.

Madera and Merced Counties were lucky in a record 1948 fire season with respective acreage losses of 167 and seven-tenths acres of forest lands. Looking back over 1947 with comparative losses of 5,195 and 16,305, it looks mighty good. In dollars and cents it looks even better, with $227 and $1 against $34,819 and $28,262 for 1947. However, by the time we got 1948 over with and the losses figured up, the next fire season started staring us in the face, and how can you sit back and enjoy one when the next one is breathing down your neck?

Wanted: one wet nurse to a week-old kid! The boys at Madera Headquarters are losing sleep on a four hour schedule to try to bottle feed an orphan from the Madera CDF goat herd at Rancheria Fire Station back to health. They've got it on a diet of canned milk, water and karo and have it blanketed down in the bottom half of a foot locker next to the heating stove in the barracks. However, the big problem seems to be trying to convince Deputy State Forester Metcalf that subsistence items can be a range improvement project when you have to buy more canned milk for the kid. Opps! The formula's boiling.

Robert Ford, Dispatcher

LETTER FROM HARRAH

"Dear Friends:

"I wish to extend to each and everyone of you my most sincere thanks for being so kind in remembering me by your attendance at my retirement party given in my behalf at the Madera Headquarters of the State Division of Forestry.

"The acts of kindness and friendship bestowed on me at such a grand party with the gift of a lovely leather chair leaves a joy and pleasure in my heart that will long be remembered, as such spirit of loyalty and friendship cannot easily be cast aside."

Sincerely yours,

s/ Ray G. Harrah
Retired Assistant Ranger

SQUIRREL ATTACKS ASSISTANT RANGER

As we sit and dream we can all visualize a man being pursued by an angry canine or a determined bull, but try as we might, it would be difficult to imagine a long, rangy Assistant Ranger beating out a cadence of 210 pursued by a snarling ground squirrel. Not only that, but to have the rodent attack and bite the said Assistant Ranger would just be too much! Strange as it may seem, the story is true, or so claims Assistant Ranger Joe Griggs of Madera County. We quote the answer to Question #24 of our Report of Injury: "Attacked and bitten on left thumb by squirrel". Ah, me! Maybe they have large squirrels in Madera County.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

DIVISION LOSES MOUNTAIN COOK

Monterey County, as well as District V in general, has suffered an extreme loss in the passing of Monterey County's year long cook, Walter W. Hickox.

Walt was always in demand as a cook and to manage large fire camp setups and was in charge of the feeding of the men at Big Basin and Big Creek Camps on the Santa Cruz Fire last year.

A work project for the winter had been established at southern Monterey County and Walt was assigned to cook at the camp. He was apparently in the best of health upon retiring on the evening of January 11. As he failed to arise when the alarm went off the following morning it was found he has passed away during the night from a probable heart attack.

He had worked for the Division of Forestry since 1939 working his first few years in a seasonal capacity and when the war started he spent his winters at lookouts in the Aircraft Warning Service and cooked during the summer months. In 1943 he was appointed as a year long cook at King City Headquarters - the job he held at his passing. The morning of his passing was the first breakfast he missed serving during the course of his employment.

Walt was extremely well liked by all who were acquainted with him and has left many friends who will mourn his loss and miss him for a long time to come.

One sister survives him, Mrs. Bertha Whiteman, who resides in San Francisco. He also had several nieces and nephews.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger

FROM DISTRICT VI

District VI is proud to announce that once again the weather is normal; however, the snow offered diversion and considered as "lots of fun" by all.

A newcomer aboard is Raleigh Taylor, Supervisor of Conservation and Education. District VI welcomes Raleigh into its fold and enjoy having him aboard. Also aboard in San Diego County is Assistant Ranger Harold Cross, welcome Harold!

ORANGE COUNTY

As many of you know from the newspapers, and our News Letter there was a little heat put on Orange County during the year of 1948. As for speed and spread, the Green River Fire of Orange County holds a record. To give some idea of how fast this fire spread in winds of forty miles an hour - on the first run on November 4 - 20,000 acres were consumed and the fire traveled a distance of eleven miles in less than two hours. During the second break, approximately a week later, when the winds were from fifty to sixty miles per hour, the loss in acreage was not as great as in the first run. Many hundreds of homes were saved by the speedy and efficient mobilization of personnel, fire trucks, orchard spray-rigs, bulldozers, and other mechanized equipment, in accordance with the Fire Plan set up in advance for just such an emergency.

"It can be done" Several different agencies, including the military, worked together with utmost cooperation proving that a job of this magnitude can be handled by cooperation and teamwork.

Improvement damage was relatively light when one takes into consideration the many hundreds of thousands of dollars of property threatened. Only one large home in a remote, heavily brush-covered area burned along with three or four lesser buildings of small value. Equipment was not sent in because there was no human life endangered, and the lives of Forestry personnel would have been imperiled had attempts been made to save these buildings. Considerable loss was inflicted on stockmen through the loss of thirty-four miles of fence. The biggest loss was the many thousands of acres of valuable watershed above an important storage reservoir.

Mustard seed has been sowed on more than 20,000 acres of the burned area. To date the rains have been gentle and some areas are still covered with snow. Unless there are torrential rains in the near future loss of soil through erosion should be slight.

J. A. Sherman
State Forest Ranger

DEVELOPMENTS AT SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Construction is underway for the extension of the truck shop at San Bernardino County Headquarters. The building will be twice as large as it was before, with the new addition giving enlarged tool room and repair space. Primarily it will be more convenient for the larger fire trucks now in use.

The 20-30 Club, with the assistance of the Division of Forestry, has completed the posting of our roadside prevention signs for the Roadside Highway Accident Prevention Program. The three signs are on Highways 66 and 99, which are the two main roads used for travel here in Southern California.

Snow fell in quantities in San Bernardino County at all elevations for the first time in the memory of any C.D.F. man in this area. For three days there was snow on the ground at San Bernardino Headquarters with a maximum depth of four inches. The snowfall is very welcome since it replenishes the underground water storage, also thoroughly soaking the brush lands that had become parched from the previous weeks of north wind. With

snow, again the four-wheel drive fire trucks have proven themselves in their ability to traverse snow and ice covered roads as well as they do during the summer in the brush areas. All in all, the trucks are able to go places with safety that is nearly impossible for the conventional type.

Martin Wissler, Forestry Equipment Operator for this county, is still confined to the hospital from his illness, but it is hoped by everyone within the District that he will be back on the job again soon.

The Cajon Pass in San Bernardino has the topography and the vegetation for the making of a major fire. To prevent the fires in this area from reaching such proportions, a station was set up at Devore in Cajon Pass for the duration of the fire season. The station consisted of a tent, a telephone and a pumper with two-way radio. One clear day, with the wind roaring down the pass, the Devore tent was pulled up by the roots and deposited down the road. Since this day, the crew stays in the sun and wind with only the truck for shelter. However, they don't mind, because very soon a beautiful station is to be built on the spot and the crew can sit by the fireplace in the new station and tell of the "old days".

Robert J. Moran
Assistant Forest Ranger

HERE WE GO AGAIN!

Well, once again it is January and time for San Diego County's annual big "blow-off". This delightful custom was inaugurated last year in the form of a dinner-dance at the La Mesa Inn for all San Diego County C.D.F. employees, their wives, husbands, and/or guests.

We are repeating last year's dinner-dance at the same La Mesa Inn — and all concerned are hoping for as good a time. The big night will be Monday, January 24. Monday night might sound like a bad night to select, but look at it this way — it gives us a whole week to rest up for the next weekend!

We thought it a good idea to mention the party in this issue of the News Letter - just in case no one has recovered sufficiently to tell all for the next issue after the party.

Leona Minga
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

STATE DIVISION OF FORESTRY IN ORANGE COUNTY COOPERATES WITH ORANGE COUNTY RADIO DEPARTMENT IN RESCUE OF SNOWBOUND FAMILY.

In January State Forestry men and Orange County radio workers, under the direction of Ranger J. A. Scherman, scaled 5691' Santiago Peak to rescue Mr. and Mrs. Harry Courts, Jr., and their two and one-half year old son, Mike. Courts maintains the Orange County police radio relay transmitting station, and serves as Lookout during the summer months. Ten stormy days had left four feet of snow with drifts up to eleven feet, atop the peak. Two unsuccessful attempts with RD7 bulldozer, weasel, and two jeeps equipped with skid chains, in as many days, were made to replenish the dwindling food and fuel supply of the Courts family.

Ominous weather conditions and continuing heavy snowfalls made their rescue imperative. On the second attempt the party of rescuers reached a point one-half mile from the summit where they were balked by ten-foot drifts, heavy ice, blinding snow, and darkness. The following day, the men with bulldozer, weasel, and jeeps again pressed up the trail through low-hanging clouds and a blinding snow.

At a point one-half mile from the summit five men donned web-footed snow shoes and slowly trudged up to the mountain top. They carried snowshoes for Mr. and Mrs. Courts to wear on the walk down the acute incline. Mike was carried by Assistant Ranger Weatherford. The bulldozer and weasel were able to make the top and the rescuers and rescued had to walk only about a hundred yards to meet the equipment. They encountered the same snow and sleet on the return trip, but the going wasn't quite as tough.

Three days later the same crew, with the same equipment, again headed toward the peak. This time with an Edison Company crew. Ice had formed on the electric wires carrying current to the Santiago Repeater Station, and had become so heavy that insulators and cross arms had been broken down. It was necessary to repair the break so that Orange County Police radio system could carry on. The weasel negotiated the entire trip with apparent ease even though about two feet more of snow covered the ground. Its praises are being sung by the Forestry crew and the men of the Edison Company.

Even though we are in SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, we do have our snow problems.

Ida M. Rolls
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

NEW LOOK FOR RAMONA STATION

The Ramona station has been resounding to the tune of jack hammers, exploding dynamite and bulldozers as station personnel and mountain forestry crews prepare the building site for our part of the scheduled C.D.F. postwar construction.

On the agenda for construction at Ramona this winter are three separate buildings for maintenance and shelter of equipment; an 80' x 40' sheet metal Butler building garage, a 60' x 26' equipment shelter, and a concrete block gas house 14' x 12' in size. Due to its central location in the County, most of the heavy equipment has been located here. These new facilities will aid in servicing and storing this equipment as well as the normal complement of station vehicles.

Work on the building site has been hampered by the amount of granite rock to be drilled and blasted to bring it down to level. After apparently wearing out one small air compressor that has seen many years of hard usage, an Army surplus unit was borrowed from the Minnewawa CAA Camp to finish the drilling. It has been necessary to proceed slowly with the blasting because of the 12,000 volt power line passing over the site. This line is to be moved shortly, however.

With about one-third of the blasting remaining to be done, it should not be too long before the final grade is obtained and forms ready to be

poured on the first of the buildings. Not only will these buildings be a useful addition to the station and county, but when they are landscaped will add much to the appearance of the station and grounds.

John H. Hastings
Assistant State Forest Ranger

SNOW IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Well, as in every other County, it snowed practically everywhere in San Diego County. The snow brought a few humorous incidents, and some not so funny.

There were approximately 30 inches of snow on the level in the Julian and Cuyamaca areas. Thirteen Girl Scouts were supposed to be snowedin at Cuyamaca, but one of our able Assistant Rangers snow-shoed in to get them. We found out later that they were well fed and warm and could have gotten out at any time. They were having too much fun to want to come out. We heard over the radio that they were offering $50 rewards for the rescue of the Girl Scouts. One of our Assistant Rangers parked his jeep on the Julian Cuyamaca road and left it. Later, he went back to find it. It wasn't there, it was completely covered with snow. Guess he will have to wait until spring when the snow melts so he can find it.

Our men did a swell job in the now bound areas with a four-wheel drive power wagon, jeep and conventional pick-up in helping to pull out many cars that were stuck in the snow. Assistant Ranger Floyd Lewis participated in the job of locating and carrying out bodies from an airplane crash three miles north of Julian, in which one woman was injured and five more killed.

The other day, I saw a sight only possible in California - sunshine, rain, hail, sleet, and snow all in the same hour. You Northern Counties do not have anything on Southern California now - meaning, SNOW.

John M. Hess
Forest Firefighting Foreman

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

CROWN ZELLERBACH PLANTS MONTEREY PINE FOR FIRST TIME

Crown Zellerbach Corporation, under its reforestation program on its Oregon and Washington tree farms, is planting 50,000 year-old Monterey pines, produced at the forest industries nursery at Nisqually, Washington, from New Zealand seed.

The species (pinus radiata), native to the Monterey region in California, was introduced in New Zealand and Tasmania 20 to 30 years ago and made tremendous growth there under conditions similar to the Douglas fir region.

Helicopter seeding, hand planting and hand seeding are all part of the Crown Zellerbach tree farm restocking program for this winter.

On the list for restocking are 4,500 acres in all. The helicopter

will seed 3,500 acres on four of the eight tree farms, while 1,000 acres will be hand planted or seeded. Precedent-setting helicopter seedings last winter brought satisfactory results, the company announced.

Work on the big reforestation program is already under way. It will bring to nearly 10,000 acres the lands restocked in the past two years by the western pulp and paper firm.

Forestry Digest - January, 1949

TREE FARM SYSTEM MAKES GREATEST GAIN SINCE 1942

The progress of tree farms during 1948 was the greatest since 1942. The addition of 301 units with 2,231,713 acres during the year pushed the nationwide score to 1,633 units with 17,096,126 acres.

West Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts and Georgia with 362,356 tree growing acres dedicated their first tree farms during the year. Twenty-three states are now in the American Tree Farm Program.

Greatest tree farm growth was again in the South, where under the leadership of the Southern Pine Association 160 units with 1,467,509 acres were certified. The South's score is now 1,251 units with 10,827,897 acres. The new member, Georgia, grabbed top honors in the nation for area certified with 318,805 acres. Florida, last year's nationwide leader, gained second honors in the South with 260,714 additional acres.

The Douglas fir region with eleven new West Coast Tree Farms plus additions to existing units added 488,168 acres swelling that region's total to 89 units with 3,012-862 acres.

The Western Pine region added 72 units with 163,585 acres raising that region's total to 2,710,061 acres. California, with 36 new units grabbed off top honors in the nation for number of tree farms certified. This is believed to be the first time that this honor has gone to a western state. Mississippi with 35 new units and Tennessee with 34 ran a very close second and third.

Washington with 226,551 additional West Coast Tree Farm acres and 65,988 Western Pine gained second honors in the nation in acreage certified with a total of 292,539. Oregon with 261,617 additional West Coast and 24,890 Western Pine acres was close behind with a total of 286,507.

Michigan will dedicate its first tree farms in the spring of 1949. Other states expected to launch their programs during the year are Missouri and Rhode Island. The outlook for the coming year is bright and 1949 is expected to set another new high for tree farms.

Forestry Digest - January, 1949

U. S. EMPLOYS 38 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S FORESTERS

According to a recent report by the FAO there are 16,562 professional foresters employed by government and industry in the entire world and 6,865 of them are working in this country.

In the United States, government services employ 4,295 foresters while industry and private organizations employ 2,000. The report estimates that 286 foresters are employed in the teaching profession in North America.

The FAO also attempts to forecast the number of foresters that will be needed. "To ensure regular management of all forest land," says the FAO, the U. S. (including Alaska) will need 5,655 foresters in the government services and 2,370 foresters for the private industries. This estimate for the needs of private industry is surprisingly low in that more recent estimates indicate that the forest industries in the U. S. are already employing about 2,500 foresters.

Forestry Digest - January, 1949

EUROPEAN FORESTS SEVERELY OVER CUT LAST YEAR

Last year Europe cut 128 million cubic meters of timber -- 35 million cubic meters, or 40 per cent, more than the annual possibility of growth, it has been reported by the European Commission on Forestry and Foreign Products.

At present, not counting the forest lands of the Soviet Union, Europe has only 0.34 hectares of forest land per capita -- the lowest ratio in the world.

Forestry Digest - January, 1949

LUMBER PRODUCTION IN U.S. EXPECTED TO REACH 30-YEAR RECORD HIGH THIS YEAR

Figures recently released by the Lumber Survey Committee in its quarterly report, indicate lumber production of the U.S. will reach a 30-year high record of 38 billion feet.

The report says that total lumber supply is rapidly overtaking demand and it is apparent that "the trend from a seller's to a buyer's market is well under way."

Demand for upper grades, says the report, remains comparatively firm but buyers are more selective and the market for lower grades has softened.

Forestry Digest - January, 1949

LOS ANGELES POPULATION passed the 2,000,000 mark December 6. That's quite an increase over 1940 Census (1,504,277). Los Angeles County now has over 4,000,000 population, compared with 2,785,000 in 1940.

County Regional Planning Commission
Administrative Digest - January 12, 1949

February 1949 Vol. 8 No. 2

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER



## STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



## PROPOSED 1949-1950 BUDGET OF DIVISION

Pursuant to your request we are offering for your consideration, the following comments about the Division of Forestry proposed 1949-50 budget:

The Division of Forestry now has before the Legislature for consideration a budget which proposes an expenditure for the 1949 Fiscal Year, $9,452,419. This figure may be broken down as follows:

(1) Support: Administration, $346,821; Conservation and Education $46,446; Field Operations District Headquarters, $493,119. Field Operations--Field Services, $5,283,298, Field Operations--Forest work camps, $786,108; Forest Management, $132,296; Range Improvement, $42,457; Maintenance and Improvements, $223,407; State Nursery, $28,220.

Total Support: $7,382,172.

(2) Other Current Expenses: Allotments to Counties, $618,614; Allotments to U.S. Forest Service, $619,196; Forest Land Survey, $90,000; Watershed research, $24,000; White Pine Blister Rust Control, $168,437; Emergency Fire Suppression, $500,000; Pine Beetle Control, $25,000; Preliminary services for State Forests, $25,000. Total - Other Current Expenses --$2,070,247.

Total Expenditures ---$9,452,419.

An Assembly Ways and Means Subcommittee has heard our Budget and due to the fact that the General Fund is now seriously over-drawn that Subcommittee has recommended that our Support Budget of $7,382,172 be cut by six percent. What the final outcome of this recommendation will be is not possible for us to say at this time. In addition to the above, the Division of Forestry has proposed capital outlay budget up for consideration by the Legislature which amounts to $3,605,733. This may be broken down as follows:

Postwar, $1,222,861; Acquisition of Forest Fire Control Stations, $57,633; Minor Construction, $118,100; Six additional Forestry Work Camps, $2,207,139.

The Legislature will scrutinize these proposals closely, and while we are confident that they will stand this close scrutiny, we cannot at this time exactly relate just how much of this money will be made available to us.

The California Division of Forestry
News Letter is published monthly in
Sacramento for and by Division personnel.
Its pages contain current facts, problems,
and events relating to forestry and to the
experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The State Forest Purchase Committee, meeting in Sacramento on February 11, approved the acquisition of 3,433 acres of forest land on Boggs Mountain in southwestern Lake County as a State Forest. The Committee, made up of the Governor, Director of Finance, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry, and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, authorized the latter to consummate the purchase. Routine procedures are now under way with the principal agents involved, the Calso Company, who own the land; and Setzer Forest Products Inc., who control the timber rights. The large merchantable trees on the tract are being retained by the Setzer Company under a precutting agreement to be logged under provisions of the Forest Practice Rules. This will be the fourth forest of appreciable size to be owned and managed by the State as a State Forest. Others include the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, 52,303.66 acres; La Tour State Forest in Shasta County, 9,013.35 acres; and Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County, 4,562.39 acres.

A compilation of seed collecting activities of the Division shows that almost 400 pounds of cleaned seed were collected this past season. The yield of seed by district is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| District I | 90 | pounds |
| District II | 124 | " |
| District III | 76 | " |
| District IV | 98 | " |
| District V | 7 | " |

The Division intends to enlarge this seed collecting program in future years. An expansion of the Division's forest nursery activities, through the establishment of branch nurseries at certain CYA camps and at State Forests will demand a sufficient quantity of stored seed be in readiness. The Division's objective is to supply badly needed forest tree planting stock at reasonable cost for both private and public reforestation purposes. As soon as the weather becomes favorable for lifting the seedling stock at the Whitmore CYA Camp branch nursery, work will commence on an experimental planting program on the lands of the Sacramento Box Company located in Butte County. The project will be a combined venture on the part of the company, the Western Pine Association, and the Division of Forestry. District II personnel and an Assistant Forest Technician from the State Nursery will participate. 2,000 one year old Ponderosa pine seedlings will be planted, 1,500 of which will be treated with three different kinds of transpiration inhibitors.

The State Forester presented a comprehensive analysis and report to the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on February 16 of the 1948 forest practice activities of the Division. The report indicated forest land owners had made substantial progress this past season in adjusting their operations to meet the provisions of the Forest Practice Rules. The report indicated an estimated 85% compliance with the Rules in the Redwood District, 76% in the North Sierra Pine, 95% in the South Sierra Pine, and 45% in the Coast Range Pine and Fir. Ninety percent of the operators that cut over fifteen million board feet of lumber this last year were in compliance with the Rules while only 50% of the operators cutting under fifteen million board feet registered full compliance. Compliance to the Rules by number of operations improved as a whole from 40% to 75% during the year. It is encouraging to note that on a total production basis the report estimated an 80% compliance with the Rules. This information was compiled from a total of 2,840 separate field inspections made by Division of Forestry employees. Current problems encountered by industry in meeting provisions of the Rules were discussed at the San Francisco meeting which was attended by more than thirty representatives of private timber companies. Of major concern to all operators

was the difficult nature of their educational job with woods workers. To be completely successful, the Rules must be recognized by the men actually on the ground, the cat skinner, choppers, etc. The problem of proper training and instruction of these men seems to be a major difficulty at the present time. As the compliance figures indicated, the smaller operators were in greatest violation of the rules . The Forest Practice Committees of the various districts intend to study these and other problems in the near future to arrive at possible recommendations for changes and improvements in the Rules.

A summary of the Division's Forestry Advisory Program has been compiled for the calendar year 1948. More than 200 farmers, who own approximately 43,000 acres of timber land, were given forest management assistance. Total products harvested under the advisory program amounted to over twenty million board feet of timber bringing approximately $83,000 gross return to the farmers. When it is realized that California has over 12,000 farmers who control an aggregate of 3,200,000 acres of timber land, it can readily be seen that the Division's forest advisory work has barely scratched the surface. Six Forest Advisors have been assigned to this program the past year operating in twenty three timber counties of the State.

Plans are under way for holding a week's training session for the Division's Forest Technicians working in the pine region. The training school will be held at the Dew Drop Fire Suppression Camp near Jackson in Amador County. The school is to be sponsored cooperatively by the Division, the University of California, the U. S. Forest Service, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. It is planned to have various experts conduct discussions in the classroom and in the woods on insect and disease damage, timber marking, estimating volumes of second growth pine stands, and other pertinent subjects. Several technical forestry positions were filled during the month. Robert Grundman, formerly employed by the Union Lumber Company, has been employed to fill the position in District I recently vacated by Forest Technician Arnold Wallen. George Rowe of the Sacramento Engineering Staff has been transferred to assume the duties of the Forest Technician in charge of the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County. Dean Bennett, Assistant State Forest Ranger in Riverside County, has moved to District III as Forest Advisor. Earl Sechrist, formerly with the U. S. Forest Service has been employed to fill a vacant position on the Forest Manager's staff in Sacramento.

1948 activities in land clearing were discussed in considerable detail on February 17 at the Board of Forestry meeting in San Francisco. A summary of this activity indicates that a total of 9,480 acres were cleared by private land owners during the winter period of 1948 from January 1 through May 1. Of this total, approximately 6,000 acres were control burned and 3,455 acres cleared by mechanical means. Nearly 47% of the land cleared during this winter period was reseeded to various kinds of grasses. During the summer period a total of 271 applications for burning permits were received but only 131 of the ranchers to whom permits were issued completed their control burns. A total of 24,041 acres was burned under permit during the summer period. Records indicate that 52% of the area cleared during the summer period was reseeded. Since the inception of the present range improvement program in 1945, the trend has been toward fewer controlled burns and a smaller area being burned each year. Field reports indicate this year that applications for permits were not so numerous as in former years. Reasons for this trend decrease are not clear. A major factor undoubtedly in some parts of the State is the fact that many ranchers burned large portions of their brush range during the first two or three years of this program and it will be another one or more before they wish to reburn these areas as a part of their

system of rotation. In other instances, brush lands burned over during past years still have a good quantity of feed which ranchers wish to utilize for another year or so before reburning. If this is the important factor in the program as appears likely, the long-time pattern which will emerge will be that of a peak in acreage burn at intervals of six to eight years and in the intervening time acreage cleared by control burning will be considerably less than during peak periods. From the experience of the past few years it is believed that there is an indication that most ranchers are becoming interested in control burning on relatively small areas at any one time so that the area can be fully utilized. One of the most urgent needs in the investigation phase of the range improvement program is for demonstrations of management methods on brush ranges. The Division of Forestry set up one such demonstrational study area this year in San Benito County in cooperation with the County Farm Advisor. The object of the study in this area is to investigate certain conditions of soil, topography, and climate under which fire and mechanical means of brush clearance may be used to eradicate or control brush species on range lands and to demonstrate some types of management which might be used in conjunction with a control program to obtain the maximum amount of forage. This study has been set up for a minimum period of five years and it is hoped to extend it to ten years if results seem to justify and other conditions permit.

During 1948 twelve field test plots were established in Shasta, Siskiyou, and Lassen Counties. Most of these plots are one-half or one acre in size and they are designed to test the adaptability of certain range forage species to reseeding in given localities. Additional test plots of similar size and design were established during the year in Mariposa and Tulare Counties.

The annual summary of fire statistics has been compiled this month and presently is being mimeographed. It will be ready for distribution by the end of March. The Fire Control Manual is about 75% complete and should be ready for field distribution by mid April. The General Motors Company has advised that ten chassis and cabs for dump truck construction will be delivered to the Division by the 10th of March. The bodies are to be assembled by the Freuhauf Trailer Company. These vehicles will be available for the field. The Bureau of Purchases was forwarded this month requisitions for ten fire trucks equipped with a 400 gallon water tank, twelve crew trucks, and ten power wagons. The Bureau of Purchases also is in the process of acquiring one heavy duty twenty-five ton diesel transport and two transport trailers. At a fixed price sale nine of twenty obsolete fire trucks were sold this month to fire protection districts and farm operators. To offset the increased cost of operations, the Division this month received supplemental operating funds amounting to $79,000. Approximately $7,000 was also received to offset the increased price of automotive equipment budgeted in the 1948-49 Fiscal Year.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. The Forest Practice Act of 1945 (amended 1947) divides the State into Forest Practice Districts. Can you give the number of districts and their names?

2. What two general groups of plants does White Pine Blister Rust attack?

3. Do any sections of the Health and Safety Code affect the operation of the Division of Forestry?

4. Are "Blank Cartridges" considered "Dangerous Fireworks"?

5. What are the names of two Acts enabling Federal cooperation with states in matters of reforestation and land management?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #1, VOL. 8 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. Two wild plants that are members of the pea family and considered excellent forage for livestock are Burr Clover and Vetch of various kinds.

2. A common broad-leafed annual which is one of the leading forage plants in California is Filaree, either Red Stem or White Stem.

3. The Eel River provides the prinipal drainage for the Redwood Region.

4. When a fire truck is responding to a fire call no vehicle other than another emergency vehicle shall follow closer than 300 feet.

5. Under the law, the State Nursery can provide growing stock for reforestation of private lands. See Page 69 of the Forest and Fire Laws, 1947.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### NEWS FROM TUOLUMNE COUNTY

We have at last begun to look down upon fires. To the administrative personnel of the State Division of Forestry, Rangers, Associate Rangers, and Assistant Rangers, such are being taught the kindly art of looking down upon fires in an intelligent manner. An instructional course in aerial photography for District III was held at Headquarters Office in North Sacramento during a three day period during February and was attended by Forestry personnel from all counties in the District.

The classes were conducted by a very learned gentleman who was well versed on the subject and skilled in the art of teaching and imparting knowledge to members of his class. This teaching ability was so apparent that our administrative personnel, Ranger Ed Minners, Associate Ranger R. F. Harris, and Assistant Ranger Don Roleder, returned to Tuolumne County with the feeling of having absorbed valuable information for future fire seasons and forestry in general.

Accommodations and services for Tuolumne personnel during the three day sojourn were remarkable. It seems as though Minners and Harris took lodging at Ye OldeTime Motor Motel and with and among other quaint efforts to please were served breakfast in bed. Pax Vobiscum!! Ye Olde Time hospitality and aerial photography combined had a great and inspiring influence upon Harris. When Minners visited Harris the following Sunday morning to discuss a little business he found a rather perturbed Mrs. Harris serving Mr. Harris his Sunday morning breakfast - in bed. Harris, with Mark Twain thoughtfulness and custom, moved over and called for his wife to bring another breakfast.

S. L. Sinclair, Assistant Ranger

### ORCHIDS FROM CALAVERAS

Firstly, our Congratulations to the News Letter staff on the new and outstanding frontispiece - you may well "point with pride."

Secondly, it appears we "missed the boat" (or was it the snowplow) by not contributing any January news of the snowfall in our area. Briefly, it snowed here, too. Of a more serious note, however, is the fact that through much of the storm period heavy snowpacks were lacking in the high elevations where they are most

needed and also were of low water content.

Weather conditions have focused more attention to our indoor jobs. The blanket room in our San Andreas headquarters warehouse has been reconstructed and improved - so much so that a housing problem was created for our mice population. The carpenter crew was comprised of Foremen Leo Cassell and Harold Woods and Equipment Operator Foster Vernon, with Associate Ranger Bradford as "architect." Foremen Clarence Dormody and Fred Day embarked on an extensive tool - painting program and claim that Assistant Ranger Herb Caton swings a mean paint brush, too.

The carpenter due to Vernon and Woods combined to turn out a handsome console-type desk for the Dispatcher's office. Not letting them rest on their laurels, Ranger Jim Fenlon then loaned their services to Amador County where they laid the floor tile in Ranger Walt Mueller's new headquarters office.

In February we added to our crew a new Foreman, Layland Friberg, formerly a Fire Truck Driver in Placer County. Welcome, "Fri"! Another personnel change was that of Foreman Andrew Lavagnino's moving to the Pine Grove CYA camp. Andy's experience in telephone line construction is already being put to good use, we understand.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

COUNTY SCHOOL HOUSE TRANSFORMED TO CREW BARRACKS

The newly acquired Keystone station has been going through a rebuilding stage during the last few months. The building, an old abandoned country school house, was donated to the Forestry. At first glance it appeared that everything about it needed repairing. The roof needed repairing, the floor sagged, the windows were broken and the crew found a rattlesnake in the building. It looked almost impossible to rebuild it into a first class barracks with the small amount of funds available. However, Tuolumne County personnel, after first removing said rattlesnake gently, fell to and the birth of a new barracks was soon on its way. A washroom was partitioned off inside the building and finished complete with shower, toilet, washbasin, stationary tubs, hot water heater, clothes lockers and cement floors. Then a small office was built in one corner of the original one room school house. Excluding the space occupied by the washroom and office there was still plenty of room left for sleeping quarters. All interior walls were then plastered and the original ten foot ceiling was lowered to eight feet. A septic tank was built and the leaching line laid. All electrical wiring was finished even to a sufficient number of service outlet plugs. A deep well pump and pressure system was installed in the well that was on the property when the Forestry fell heir to it. A spacious new pump house was erected and painted. All the plumbing, carpentering, cabinet making, electrical, painting and plastering work was done by our own men with not one cent spent for outside skilled help! There is still more construction work to be done on this building but we feel sure that it can be done with our present personnel.

R. F. Harris
Associate Ranger

DARING TO BE DIFFERENT

If no one had ever dared to be different, no progress would ever have been made.

But people who feel that they have something new and different to offer often become discouraged because they or their ideas are not immediately accepted.

Often when a man has a new idea he would be more comfortable if he could forget it. But, perhaps, he can't forget it. And if he can't, he must be prepared to pay the price. Progress always comes at a price.

Perhaps, where you work you have seen things that could be improved. Perhaps, you have made suggestions that were not well received. But, if you have something worthwhile to offer, don't be discouraged simply because others don't see it or accept it as rapidly as you believe they should.

The man with a new idea, a new invention, or an improved process almost always meets misunderstanding, ridicule, and resistance.

It is a serious thing to disturb old ideas. It isn't easy for any of us to give up things we have become comfortably accustomed to. Change is an effort and an inconvenience. The old rut is quite comfortable, and so we resist those who want to shake us out of it.

Alvin B. Filippini
Associate State Forest Ranger

DOUBLE TROUBLE

District IV seems to be destined for that familiar ill omen "Double Trouble" regardless of our efforts. A few years before the war someone in Madera County with an apparent odd sense of humor, or in a weak moment, employed identical twins, Dick and Bob Ford, as firefighters, and according to old timers things really went into a whirl. No one knew whether Bob was on duty or Dick was pinch-hitting for Bob, or vice versa. It was with a sigh of relief when in 1941 our "boys" took advantage of the recent squabble to become Gentlemen.....by act of Congress, of course....in Uncle Sam's Air Force. From all reports they managed to upset the Army's regular routine by remaining together through training--and for all we know they might have even flown twin tail fighters piggy back together. So when the war was over, regulations and the Boss decided to put an end to this double take by assigning Dispatcher Bob Ford to Visalia and Mr. Dick Ford as Dispatcher to Madera, but then rumor has it that even then they used to pinch hit for one another. So, when Bob was transferred to District V we all gave a sigh of relief. But, alas! "Double Trouble" struck again when according to the January issue of the News Letter Bob Ford, now an Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz, doubled for Dick Ford, our Dispatcher, in a news release.

Arthur Moberg
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM KINGS COUNTY

News in Kings County is very scarce this month with vacations etc. However, we are getting ready for a spring house-cleaning, one man attended training school at Woodlake, Tulare County this past week, another driver is attending night school at Hanford, equipment is being put in order, one new truck being built up, continuation of building, planting trees and shrubs, also, the road district will disk along county roads. In other words, the new few months will be busy ones. "WE ARE GOING TO HAVE FIRE PREVENTION GALORE."

We have had very little rain this season, approximately 1.5 inches, no grass in sight, looks bad for the stockmen, on the other hand, we can be very happy over the wonderful snow in the mountains and that means water for irrigation.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BREAKS LONG SILENCE

Since Santa Cruz County has been taken off the ASBESTOS list via the Pine Mountain Fire, and placed in the COMBUSTIBLE category, we are going all out to keep reminding everyone that we are here: SO - On September 5th, 1948, Mrs. and Mr. Robert W. Ford announced the arrival of a baby girl (remind us some time to tell you ALL about it - big fire, prospective father out of communication on the fire line, radio calls, telephone calls and the Stork hovering closer every minute) and then on January 4th, 1949, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Reese had their second baby - a boy. Even Steven so far. One boy - one girl. One prospect in the very near future but we wont mention any names.

Still not mentioning any names - we are a little tired of that old "SAW" about bumping into doors when showing up at work with TWO BIG BLACK EYES. 'Taint my fault.

Ann Onymous

ASSISTANT RANGERS GO SMOKE HAPPY

It began on January 24th at 6:20 P.M. A Mr. Roe reported fire in Zayante Canyon. Knowing the danger in this area, the Schedule "A" driver dispatching, tried to get a definite location. After making numerous calls to cooperators in the area where the fire was reported, another call came in. Fire on Glen Haven Road. No more had the phone been hung up when another report said fire above Soquel. At this the Dispatcher was frantic, but it was not to stop here. Yes you guessed it. A fire above Big Creek was the next report. It was decided the Dispatcher should pack his clothes to move fast. By this time it was 10 P. M. and the calls were still coming in and the Assistant Rangers were still chasing that Big red glow.

After three more calls from frantic people, it was decided that the Northern Lights were doing their best and we were only chasing the stars. We don't feel too silly about it tho, because Forestry men in the North end of the State were out on the same thing.

Winter Walchell
Santa Cruz County's Seeing Eye

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN DISTRICT VI

The Instructor Training Program in District VI got under way with the first session being held in San Diego County on February 7. This program is to continue for four consecutive weeks in San Diego County and will conclude at the close of March 4, 1949, for that County. This Instructor Training is being given under the very capable leadership of Associate Ranger Walter G. Francis.

On February 21, Instructor Training commenced in Orange County under the capable leadership of Charles Ulrey, Assistant Ranger, San Bernardino. The following

week, February 28, will mark the second session with his group, said session being held in San Bernardino County. Ulrey will complete his training assignment in Riverside County at the close of two weekly sessions ending March 25, 1949.

The enthusiasm and interest displayed to date by all participants taking part in the training program has been most encouraging and we definitely feel that highly satisfactory results will be accomplished from these training sessions, not only the individuals participating in the program, but in the followup of fire crew training throughout the coming season.

E. H. Bertsch
Assistant Deputy State Forester

It seems as though District VI has just laid down its pack from the 1948 fire season and already the 1949 fire season is upon us, with young men filing through our portals inquiring into the possibility of employment with the Division during the summer. These young men vary in ages from 16 to 19, the majority of them being students in search of summer employment, some of which have Forestry as their major and are seeking actual experience to broaden their knowledge along these lines. To all these young men, Forestry offers excitement and good molding; some are anxious to start in as State Forest Rangers while others more conservative, desire to start in the firefighter class. The position of Deputy State Forester has been as yet unthreatened by this onslaught; however, it is wise to remember that these excitement seeking youths of today, will be our Foresters of tomorrow. It will be these youths who will in years to come carry on the duties and responsibilities of the Division of Forestry.

In reading the issue of the News Letter for the month of February, District VI was pleased to discover that Stewart Sinclair has recently been married. We wish to take this opportunity to wish both Mr. and Mrs. lots of luck and many happy years together.

District VI also wishes to take this opportunity to commend Fred Gordon for his work on the cover of this February issue.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY ACTIVITIES

At this writing, dismantling work has begun on the 60 foot steel lookout tower on Mount Woodson. This tower will be transferred to another location in Northern California where the extra height is needed. It will be replaced by a new, modern type tower, more in keeping with the needs at this site.

The repeater vault on Lyons Peak is in its final completion stages - such stages being rather long and drawn-out due to the slow melting rate of the "unusual" snow pack.

Cuyamaca Park has been inaccessible all winter and at the present rate will remain so, with several feet of snow clinging tenaciously to its 6,515 foot slopes.

Len Chatten
Associate State Forest Ranger

AUTOMOTIVE SITUATION IN SAN DIEGO

Things have been happening in our shop lately. For the last month, every time anybody went into the shop, they would see Jim Coulter, Heavy Equipment

Operator, surrounded by a shower of welding sparks. You see, we have been building two County-owned fire trucks for our use.

Everybody in La Mesa has had their hand in on helping Jim with the building of the trucks. One truck is nearly completed and one waiting. Still another truck is being built by Yankee Body Works in Los Angeles. Here are some particulars that might be interesting:

They are Ford K-7 two-ton trucks. They will have two pumps, one Hale centrifugal mounted midship and one Viking mounted underneath the chassis. They will carry 350 gallons of water with 500 feet of 1½" hose and 300 feet of hard line, mounted on top on a reel. They also carry one 10 foot extension ladder and two hard suctions. They will be fully equipped structural and brush rigs.

The trucks were built so that they can be dismantled easily in case later work is done. They will have two cab mounted red lights and radios. The trucks overall length is 21 ft. Everyone claims they are really "the rigs".

John M. Hess, Foreman

CARROUSEL

The Division of Forestry in San Diego County had quite a busy social life during the month of January. First, on the 24th, was the annual dinner dance at the La Mesa Inn for all employees, their wives and husbands, etc. Believe it can safely be said that a very good time was had by all. I also think that these parties are a wonderful idea -- but most of us will agree, once a year is enough. We are still chuckling over the party, as we are reminded of it again and again through the wonderful flash pictures taken all evening by Assistant Ranger "Slim" Carlson of Ramona. We have yet to see some of the pictures, but the ones we have seen so far have been very good.

Also included on our social calendar, was the very nice wedding of our "Old Bachelor" (we thought) Foreman Larry Ramsbacker to Miss Marilee McManigal on January 29. After the ceremony and reception, a little party was held by the Forestry gang with the newlyweds as guests of honor. We all want to offer our congratulations and wish them many years of happiness.

Leona Minga
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Belated congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Balsom. On December 20 they were presented with a new baby girl, named Sharon Art, who is now the proud father of three girls, is Assistant Ranger in charge of the East-end District of San Bernardino County.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

IT ISN'T MY FAULT, OR IS IT?

It was a bright summer day. The woods were very quiet, the only sound was the swish of a passing automobile. Then the silence was shattered! A shot was heard,

followed by a roar of laughter. Than a large, black car disappeared over the hill.

Sammy, the chipmunk, poked his head out of his home and blinked. "What was all the noise about?" he wondered. Being an inquisitive little guy he decided to go find out. As he approached the meadow he saw something that made his small, chipmunk heart fly right up into his mouth. There, lying in the middle of the meadow was a large doe - dead.

"Gosh!" exclaimed Sammy. "Now, who in the world would be underhanded enough to do a thing like that? Certainly not one of us animals. We kill only when we're hungry. But this body hasn't been touched. Say, I'll bet it was one of those mean two-legged animals. They're always doing things like that. Well, there's nothing I can do about it."

As he went scampering back toward his home, he saw something else that made him blink. There, in some dry pine needles was a little white thing that was smoking at one end. Sammy knew what that was so he decided he would tell those mean, two-legged varmints all about it. He jumped up on a stump, took a deep breath that nearly popped his tiny furry chest, and began to speak. Here is what he said:

"Now I may be nothing but a small, uneducated chipmunk but sometimes I think I have more brains than all of you put together. Why can't you be a little more careful where you point your guns and throw your matches and cigarettes? If we caused you any trouble you would call an exterminating company and get rid of us. We can't do that. Some day you will look out your window and find that you live in nothing but a barren wasteland. It's up to you."

The smoke was getting thick and the fire was crackling in the underbrush. Sammy jumped down from his perch and began to run for the river. He got there safely and jumped in.

"Please do something quick," yelled Sammy, "because (glub) I don't (splash) like water!"

Bob Brackney
Navelencia Elementary School
Eighth Grade, age 14

## FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

### TRUMAN ASKS FOR FEDERAL REGULATION

Prospects for legislation providing for the regulation of cutting practices on privately owned timberlands are seen in the following statement by President Truman in his Economic Report to Congress on January 7:

"There has been no measurable improvement during the past year in our timber prospects. The saw timber cut still far exceeds annual growth. The depletion of our remaining supply, especially in small, privately owned forest properties, is proceeding so rapidly that immediate consideration should be given to legislation for regulation of forest practices.

"Unless much more rapid progress is made along lines of improved private practices or State legislation for the control of cutting practices, national interest and security will require Federal-State action. As in the case of soil

conservation, improved long-term credit would be helpful. Other forest conservation should be strengthened. Our depleted forest resources should be rebuilt to meet fully our needs on a sustained-yield basis."

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

BANKERS ENDORSE SUPPORT OF FORESTRY AS PART OF THEIR 1949 PROGRAM

The Program for Country Banks - 1949, of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association urges support of a forestry program as being an important part of its soil conservation work.

The program will include:

(1) Acquainting bankers with information concerning all forestry agencies operating in the states.

(2) Cooperation between the federal, state, and private forestry agencies and the bankers in studying forestry and its financial opportunities in the individual state, and the making use of studies which have been made by Federal Reserve banks and others.

(3) Cooperation with colleges of agriculture in making studies of production from well-managed farm woodlands and the economic importance of this production in a well-rounded farm enterprise.

(4) A study of integrating bank financing with forestry production.

(5) A study of adequate fire control.

(6) Invitations to forestry experts to speak on programs at state meetings.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

POLE BLIGHT DISEASE IS MORE SERIOUS THAN IT WAS FIRST CONSIDERED

Pole blight disease in western white pine is more serious than it was first thought, according to Dean D. S. Jeffers, University of Idaho, school of forestry.

The Idaho forestry school through a special research project, is spearheading an all-out attack against this disease, which is attacking most seriously pines between 40 and 100 years of age--commonly called "pole size" trees.

The research consists of establishing test plots, making cultures of various fungi, studying soil conditions, analyzing the wood and foliage of healthy and diseased trees, and investigating every lead that might give an answer to this problem.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

DOUGLAS FIR WOOD MOLASSES PUTS WEIGHT ON HEIFERS

Wood molasses made from Dougas fir is putting speedy, cheap gains on heifers in experimental tests at Washington State College.

Two groups of heifers were on the same ration except for molasses. At the end of 15 weeks the molasses group had gained 135 pounds compared to only 103 pounds for the other group.

Wood molasses is not on the market yet, but research on wood by-products is trying to pave the way.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

MILDER SMOKES FROM FRUIT TREE PAPER

Cigarette paper is soon to be made from fruit orchard trimmings by a new Canadian company incorporated under the name of Shaw-Manson, Ltd., with offices in Montreal and Toronto.

Most cigarette paper is now being manufactured from flax straw.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

WATTS STRESSES NATIONAL FORESTS IN ANNUAL REPORT

Chief Forester Lyle F. Watts of the U. S. Forest Service spotlighted the National Forests in his annual report for 1948.

In it he stated that these public forests "still represent the largest tangible accomplishment in forest conservation in this county."

National security and welfare demand sound management and wise use of all forest land, Watts said and with our growing population and steady depletion of many forests in private ownership it means "our national forests and other public forests undoubtedly will play an increasingly important part in the Nation's economy."

Evidence of the downward trend of the private timber supply is found in the growing demand for timber from the National Forests, according to Watts. He noted that the 3,800,000,000 board feet of timber cut on the National Forests last year was three times the pre-war cut of 1,250,000,000 board feet.

He said, "Many sawmills that formerly had supplies of private timber are now wholly dependent on national forest timber to keep going."

Concerning privately owned timberlands Watts said: "Many lumber companies, pulp and paper companies, and other industrial and individual owners of private forest land are doing a good job of forest management. But only 8 percent of all timber-cutting practice on private lands can yet be so classed. Twenty-eight per cent is fair. Sixty-four per cent is poor or destructive. Private forestland resources as a whole are on the down grade. Timber is not being grown as fast as it is being used. Millions of acres of forest land are now poorly stocked or non-productive. Many forest lands are seriously deteriorating from a watershed standpoint.

"The Forest Service has repeatedly recommended measures to encourage better forest management on private lands -- increased public aid in fire protection and insect and disease control; increased technical advice and assistance for forest-land owners, especially the small owners; public aid in the development of

cooperative management and marketing associations of forest owners; provision for long-term, low-interest loans to help finance timber-growing enterprises; and more research on problems of timber growing and forest management.

"The Forest Service also has repeatedly recommended public control of timber cutting and related practices on private forest lands, sufficient to prevent destructive practices and to assure that forest lands will be kept in reasonably productive condition. A plan for regulation by the States, with basic national standards, and with Federal financial assistance, has been proposed."

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

PREVENTION CAMPAIGN PAYING

Carl A. Gustafson, fire control chief of the U. S. Forest Service, believes that a 28-percent drop in the number of man-caused fires on national forests in 1948 represents progress in making the country more fire conscious.

Various agencies have been conducting forest fire prevention campaigns for 40 years. The drop was all the more significant, he said, because there were more campers, hunters, fishermen, and recreationist in the forests in 1948 than ever before.

Journal of Forestry - February, 1949



NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

MARCH 1949 VOL. 8 NO. 3

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

To facilitate a better understanding of responsibilities, to discuss ways and means to improve the Division's service to the people of California, and to consider special administrative problems, a three-day Division of Forestry conference was held this month at Asilomar in Monterey County. More than one hundred fifty administrative and technical employees of the Division were in attendance. Recommendations developed during the course of the conference will subsequently be given close scrutiny at all administrative levels of the Division in an attempt to further improve administrative and management methods inherent in every business as diverse as that of the Division of Forestry.

A one-day meeting of the State Board of Forestry was held in Sacramento on March 31. The State Forester reported on the Division's 1949-50 budget presently being considered by the Legislature. Board members were also acquainted with the progress in the forest legislation to date.

An analysis of all the 1948 timber registrations was completed this month, the statistics having shown that 810 operators registered with the production of saw timber, fence posts, split products, fuelwood, poles and piling, and pulpwood from these operations estimated at 3.19 billion board feet. Because of the severe nature of the winter season there has been much speculation recently on how the abnormally cold weather affected forest insect conditions throughout the timber zone of California. Preliminary examinations to date indicate that mortality of wintering broods of Ips species was not much greater than that of a normal winter kill. Past experience, however, has demonstrated that temperatures unusually severe have had a greater effect on the destruction of Western pine beetle. Authorities conclude that destruction of merchantable timber in the northeastern part of California from the Western pine beetle will be lessened this year. This reduction will probably be offset to some extent by the weakened condition of forest stands caused by snow breakage and freeze damage to young trees.

Work was in progress in Southern California this month on the Julian insect infestation zone of San Diego County. It is estimated that work should be completed in this area by the end of April.

The State Board of Forestry, at its meeting in March, approved an experimental venture on this project involving the use of chemicals to kill the insects. The chemicals are to be applied to smaller standing trees by using power spray equipment. The Forest Insect Laboratory is cooperating with the Division in this work designed to test the suitability under chemical treatment to certain California conditions in hopes of finally effecting lower insect control costs.

Negotiations were completed during the month for this summer's use of the Mendocino Recreational Area in Mendocino County by various non-profit groups. Until these groups have had sufficient time to form a parent organization that can take over the management and maintenance burdens of the area under direct lease from the State, the area will be maintained by Division personnel. Fees will necessarily have to be charged to compensate the Division for the time and money spent in the administration and management of facilities.

Studies of operational features of the Division's radio network continued this month directed towards improving communication facilities for the summer fire season. Among others, the Division of Communications and this

Division instigated a study to determine the most adaptable antenna types for use at radio repeater locations. Specifications for radios to be purchased with funds of the 100th Fiscal Year Budget were completed during the month.

Instructors training schools were continued this month in practically all districts. This program is directed to the Associate Ranger, Assistant Ranger, and Foreman levels in the field and is the result of the initial training school held in Fresno in cooperation with the Department of Education earlier in the year. These men in the field are responsible each year for training some 1500 seasonal employees in the fire crew class. Learning techniques and procedures and the finer points of instruction and concentrating on them when training the seasonal employees should be of material aid in increasing the effectiveness of fire crews.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Deane Bennett, former Assistant Ranger Riverside County, to Assistant Forestry Technician District III, replaces Ronald Adams as Farm Forester District III, Adams now working with Ray Doney on forest nursery work.

Melvin Miller resigned his Associate Ranger position, ElDorado County and transferred as Assistant Ranger to Riverside County replacing Deane Bennett.

Kenneth Dosier Jr. is newly appointed Senior Radio Telephone Technician assigned to District V.

Leland Smith, Forest Technician, is on temporary assignment at Sacramento Headquarters on special study work in land survey.

Eric Jacobson, Assistant Forestry Technician, transferred from Farm Forestry work in District I to Assistant Technician, Jackson State Forest, Mendocino County.

George Rowe, Forest Technician has replaced Tobe Arvola as Technician in charge of the Jackson State Forest.

Edwin Sechrist, Forest Technician, has been appointed Assistant to the Forest Manager in the Sacramento Office.

James Chamberlain has been appointed as Assistant Civil Engineer replacing Tom Stetson in the Engineering Section of the Sacramento Office.

Bill Murray, Assistant Ranger, Yuba County, left the Division to take up ranch work in Tulare County.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

TELEPHONE LINE RELOCATION PROGRAM IN TUOLUMNE COUNTY

The hoot and holler system in Tuolumne County will be a thing of the past as the relocating of six miles of new telephone line and the metalizing of twelve miles of the old line from Sonora to Rushing Mountain lookout is moving along rapidly. To date the surveying of the line and the brushing of

the right of way has been completed. Up to the present time all of the work has been done by Tuolumne County personnel. However, starting the first week in April, we will have a ten man C.Y.A. crew working on the project. The facilities for quartering the C.Y.A. crew will be provided at the Blanchard Suppression Station. We hope to have the line completed for the coming fire season.

Foreman Cliff Neal has resigned due to the illness of his wife. The vacancy has been filled by Ralph Jenkins, who was employed here during the last fire season.

Don M. Roleder
Assistant Ranger

MURRAY LEAVES DIVISION

March 4th brought to a close Assistant Ranger Bill Murray's long association with the Division of Forestry and personnel of Yuba County decided to say farewell to Bill and his family with a flourish. A festive party highlighted by a fine Italian style dinner, music (?) on the guitars (courtesy of Stanley and Fippin, Inc.) and songs (courtesy of all) helped Bill, Rose, and the little Murrays to thoroughly enjoy their last evening in Yuba County.

After dinner Bill was presented with a handsome hand-worked leather wallet and Rose with a Revere Ware chicken broiler — we expect the Murray's ranch near Visalia (Yettem, to be exact) to produce a sufficient number of chickens to keep the pot well filled at all times.

We know that the Murray's many friends will want to join with us in wishing Bill and his family all of the success in the world in his new role as rancher.

YUBA OFFICE AND RANGER QUARTERS NEAR COMPLETION

The new Yuba County Headquarters on the east side of Marysville is rapidly taking shape. The carpenters, ably assisted by Yuba County personnel, have erected the office in near-record time, and the Ranger's residence has followed suit. The office should be ready for occupancy as soon as the painter has completed his tasks and the residence shortly thereafter. Needless to say we are all very happy over the progress that has been made and wish to thank all who have had a hand in expediting construction.

H. P. Reinecker
Assistant Ranger

JOE ISN'T IN CALAVERAS

The byword for District III recently seemed to be "Anybody here seen Joe?" Operation Manhunt, led by Herman "Bloodhound" Meyers throughout the District, uncovered no suspect in Calaveras County. We hope there's no truth to the rumor that FORTNIGHT magazine, which recently featured a dramatic article on Roland Vandegrift, State Legislative Auditor, is also now vigorously searching for Joe to obtain his life story.

April 4th found three changes in personnel occurring here. Checking in from Placer County was Charles "Chuck" Wagener, Assistant Ranger, and from

El Dorado County was Bill Jones, Dispatcher. Logging himself out to Sutter Hill in Amador County was Vernon Cassell, Dispatcher.

Wagener will take over the Forest Practice assignment here. Jones moves into position behind the new console desk vacated by Dispatcher Cassell. The latter wishes to point out that Amador's spanking new office building is really something to see, even without him there.

We sincerely hope there is nothing prophetic about the fire we rolled to on March 29th - our first grass fire of the season, fanned by a stiff breeze, burned an entire acre of last year's dry grass and threatened a dwelling. Altho we rolled two trucks to chaperone it, the fire went out by itself.

Up to the time we went to press Ranger Fenlon and Associate Ranger Bradford were still shaking Asilomar sand out of their boots.

Vernon Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

NEWS FROM AMADOR COUNTY

Congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Rolfe, CDF Foreman, Amador County. In the first week of March the Rolfe's were presented with a 7 lb. future firefighter. Congrats Bob, on your income tax exemption.

A great deal of activity is going on around Dew Drop Suppression Camp. Early in March word came to Amador County that Dew Drop had been selected as the location to hold the week's training school for the Forest Technicians. Everyone immediately began the major job of getting the camp ready. Efforts were hampered severely by the heavy snowfall. At the time of this writing there is 3 to 4 feet of snow on the level and drifts of 8 to 10 feet around the buildings. It was recommended by Johnny Johnson, Foreman in charge of Dew Drop, that the initial course to be taught should be on "Use and Care of the Snow Shoe". It was further recommended that each man equipped with a diameter tape should be issued a snow shovel. It may be novel to some of the "students" to dig down in order to get D.B.H. Cheer up, boys, maybe it will rain. Then all you'll have to worry about is waist deep mud. Will snow shoes work in mud?

The C.D.F. personnel of Amador County wish to extend this word of welcome to Deane Bennett, Farm Forester, recently assigned to Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne, as Farm Forester. Deane Bennett was formerly from Riverside County, District VI.

We also wish to extend to Ronald S. Adams, predecessor of Mr. Bennett, our sincere wishes on his new position. Ronny was recently transferred to the Forest Nursery at Davis. Good luck Ronny.

FLASH! New office at Sutter Hill completed and occupied fulfilling a long felt need. Now, if we only had a couple of residences and a warehouse the station would be fairly complete. Persons who had any connection with the construction of the office are to be congratulated for their foresight, and thoughtfulness on the floor plan.

Wm. C. Finster
Assistant Ranger

LOST PIPE DELAYS CONSTRUCTION JOB

Ranger Bruce Hufford, the sage of District IV, has gained quite a reputation for a smooth running operation and has developed unique ways of solving personnel problems as they arise. However, recently his ingenuity was taxed to the limit when he received a hurry-up call from Assistant Ranger John Rosar to visit the Hornitos Fire Control Station Construction job.

Rosar reported that he was suspicious of the intentions of Foreman Lew Jones, stating that after the concrete blocks had been laid and mortared in Jones was quite insistent that they be removed on the excuse that in his opinion they were not laid true. Upon Rosar's refusal to comply, the project was practically at a standstill. Our Ranger Hufford, upon applying all the tricks and practices of a true man of the mountains, in noting Jones' glum appearance finally discovered that Jones had lost his pet pipe in the concrete mortar. So, after the promise of immediate replacement of the pipe and the gift of two fresh cigars (Rosar's) a harmonious crew again was in operation.

Bill Webb, Carpenter Foreman

INSTRUCTOR'S TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS SAN LUIS OBISPO ACTIVITIES

Highlight of interest in San Luis Obispo County this month was the training program conducted for the purpose of teaching field personnel in District V, the approved method of instructing others in the various tasks which may be assigned to them.

This school was attended by Associate Rangers, Assistant Rangers, Dispatchers, Foremen and a few Truck Drivers from Monterey, San Luis Obispo and a part of San Benito County.

S. Nash-Boulden
Associate Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI

District VI personnel are anxiously eyeing the green grass growing tall for it won't be long now until the bloom on its cheeks fades to brown and a new fire season will be upon us. Even the deserts are now putting on their once-every-decade spectacle of a sea of flowers crowned by 10,000 feet high white-capped mountains, but next June and July, it will be hard to remember such beauty as we stagger forward to halt the red surge of flames.

Oh yes, we'll need some good men around here and we are thinking of one recently arrived to fill the vacancy created by Deane Bennett's transfer to District III as an Assistant Forest Technician. We welcome Melvon Miller, formerly of District III to the Assistant Ranger position in Riverside County and our best wishes follow Deane Bennett up north and we wish both men luck in their new jobs.

It has been reported that Assistant Ranger Vernon Stahl has been under the weather. All Vernon's friends here in District VI hope he is on his feet and well again. One of our busiest dispatchers in the State (nearly 60 vehicles to handle on 600 plus fires yearly) is soon taking on another little chore; namely, the changing of Beverly J. Brown's to that of Mrs. Sam. A. Heidanus. Sam has seen a number of years service at the Perris Headquarters of Riverside County.

Douglas Glenn, Dispatcher

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The "Instructor Training Course" was conducted in San Diego County

for the periods February 7 to March 3 at Camp Elliott. Many Division employees throughout the State will remember Camp Elliott relative to the State-wide structural training program at this location from March 26 to April 4, 1947. The Instructor course was scheduled to four sessions, each of four days duration with a total of 59 employees participating. San Diego County included all Assistant Rangers, Foremen, and a large majority of Drivers, as well as Project Supervisors, Foremen and Drivers from Rainbow and Minnewawa C A A Camps. With such a large cast of "instructors" the "follow-up" and "back-up" should be TER-RIFIC. Considering an extensive follow up in this regard, we feel that only the preliminary bout has been completed.

Combined efforts of all employees are concentrated on completion of construction projects under the Post-war and Minor Construction programs, before April 15 find the fires ROLLING again. At present we are struggling with two equipment shelters, two gas houses and one wash house, in addition to erection of a Butler Building and a new lookout tower. In the crystal ball, we see two fire control stations under construction at Potrero and Warner Hot Springs, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF FIRE SEASON.

W. G. "Curley" Francis
Associate Ranger

ORANGE COUNTY

The Instructor Training Course has been given to Assistant Rangers and Foremen of Orange County by Assistant Ranger Ulrey of San Bernardino County, who previously attended a special training course in Fresno. Persons who took the course speak highly of it and feel that they will be in a much better position to properly train the new summer fire control employees.

Nine fire prevention programs have been presented since the first of the year to a total audience of some 580 persons, and plans are being made for a concentrated public relations campaign during Conservation Week. At this time programs will be presented at schools, clubs, and at a Jamboree of approximately 2,000 Boy Scouts, their families and friends. Newspaper and radio publicity is being prepared for release during Conservation Week.

All personnel is busily engaged in project and maintenance work — property inventory, minor construction of buildings, fire roads, and maintenance of telephone lines, etc.

Foreman Louis Baldwin of the Yorba Linda Station took his vacation and spent most of it snowbound in Idaho — Driver Ordean Monson is sporting a new gray Chevrolet Sedan — Associate Ranger Osterman is extending invitations to his friends to come see his new television set, bring your own refreshments — It's a girl for (Foreman) Bob and Esther Keepers of Trabuco Station.

Ida M. Rolls
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

A group of twenty (20) men have completed the Instructor Training Course, held in two sessions at the Headquarters stations of Orange and San Bernardino Counties.

At this writing, it may be said that all personnel have entered into the course with excellent cooperation and applied themselves to the assignments and demonstration lessons. They have finished the course with the opinion that it is one of the best training efforts made by the Division of Forestry and definitely a step forward.

Thanks to the U. S. Navy, through the Naval Reserve Armory in San Bernardino, an ample supply of training aids have been available for this course. Sound film, film strips, and strip projectors, were also made available by the Navy.

The 46 foot extension to our present garage is nearing completion and Mechanic Shay is sitting on pins and needles waiting to move in.

Charles Ulrey
Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The snow has receded a wee bit here in the Julian-Cuyamaca Insect Zone allowing us "Buggers" to take a peek at the winter activities of the Ips and D.B. The continual cold, below freezing over long periods of time, has caused the mortality of at least fifty percent of the Ips. The Ips' galleries are in a continual damp condition, with icicles hanging from the walls, sooooo - they should be in a state of long suspended animation. The D. B. infected trees are in far flung places still inaccessible. During the prevention survey at least 60 trees harboring D. B. were found. As soon as weather permits, we can ascertain the extent of damages. It is the Dentroctonus Brevicomis that Mr. Paul Keen, Entomologist in charge, is most interested in controlling.

The beetle eradication crew consists of two men at present, doing work on Ips and cleaning up all the snow-downed green pines, thus removing a slash deposit and a future breeding place for the next generation of Ips.

The actual preparation against the depredation of Forest Insects has been in full swing a week, with a full crew of four truck drivers and two assistant Rangers. The crew is composed of C. R. MacGregor, F. D. Lewis, E. L. Balmforth, and G. E. Snyder.

Felling the D. B. trees has gone along at full speed. Two power saws are in alternate operation. The burning conditions are becoming severe in the pine timber so it must wait for climatic conditions to prevail.

The Pine Hills residential area was the first beach-head attempted, thirty-one D. B. trees being felled there.

That's about all from this correspondent at the Insect Zone 'til Forest Entomologist Engen and Patterson, Spray Authority, come down from the Bureau of Entomology to assist us next week.

Guy A. Konnersman
Assistant Ranger

CONSERVATION WEEK REFLECTION:

Too many people confuse conservation and conversation. All they do about wisely using our natural resources is to talk about it.

Brentwood News

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, self control, diligence, strength of will, content and a hundred other virtues which the idle never know.

Charles Kingsley
Administrative Digest, March, 1949

FLUORESCENT LAMP TUBES CARRY AN EXTREME POISON HAZARD

Fluorescent Lamps are coated on the inside with a fluorescent powder called a phosphor. The composition varies, but the phosphor usually contains beryllium in amounts ranging from a fraction of a percent to approximately 4 percent. The lamps also contain small amounts of mercury.

Serious injury is possible by glass from a broken tube of a fluorescent lamp, if there is a cut from the glass, or if the powdered material (phosphor) from the surface of the glass enters a wound or cut. If a person is cut by a piece of glass from a fluorescent lamp, or if the material on the glass enters a wound or cut, chronic inflammation may result and months may be required for the wound to heal. There have been a number of instances in which the surgeon's knife had to be used, in such cases, perhaps several times, to remove dead or degenerated tissues and tumor masses from the region where the cut occurred. Indeed in some cases, removal of large areas of skin, muscle, or bone may be required.

This extreme toxicity is in the powder which is used to line the interior of the lamp, commonly containing a small percentage of a compound of the metal beryllium, which has recently been found to be very poisonous.

Disposal of tubes which have burned out must be extremely cautious so as to avoid a health hazard. Developments in the near future may eliminate the major portion of the health hazard. In the meantime, it is recommended that all used lamps be broken before disposal. In breaking lamps, the following hazards, in the order of their importance, must be recognized:

1. The dust of beryllim compounds with which the tubes are coated may be inhaled.

2. Cuts or scratches from the broken tubes may retain some of the beryllium compounds.

3. Mercury vapor (tubes contain some free mercury) may be inhaled.

Special precautions. a) Never discard lamps by placing them with rubbish or refuse where they can be carelessly handled or broken.

b) Never destroy them in incinerators.

c) Do not permit them to be placed where children may have access to them or can play with them. Dust and fumes from the materials of the lamp must be prevented by all possible means from getting into the human system either through a wound or through the nose or mouth; it would be almost impossible to prevent such entry in the case of a child playing with a lamp tube or with broken pieces of one.

d) The folks at home as well as your fellow workers should be warned of the dangers of broken fluorescent lamp tubes. Tell them particularly about the extreme precautions that would be necessary if a lamp does fall on the floor and breaks, and explain that by no means should anyone attempt to pick up bits of glass or other material from the lamps with the fingers. The first thing to do if a lamp falls and breaks is to get out of the room and stay out until any dust produced shall have settled.

The broken glass should be swept up with a brush and pan. If possible, wet it down before sweeping it up. Then wash up the floor with a rag and throw the rag away. (The Navy requires that gloves and full protection goggles be worn when disposing of tubes.)

e) Altho the tubes are under vaccum and implode when broken, once in a while one will explode. One large company's bulletin mentions that the glass is very fine and penetrating and often flies with considerable force. This advice is also given that "anyone who should happen to break a fluorescent bulb should receive medical attention immediately to make sure that he has received no cuts with this beryllium-contaminated glass." Since many physicians may not know of the danger as yet, it will be helpful to your physician, should an accident occur with a fluorescent lamp tube, if you will ask him to read the material in this BULLETIN.

Division of Highways
Safety Section - Sacramento

WANTED: INFORMATION ON THE BEAR CANYON DIGGER PINES

"Does anyone have any information on the two lone digger pines that are growing in Bear Canyon on the Angeles National Forest?"

This is the plea being issued by Glenn Flittner and Roy Bertin, botany students at John Muir College, Pasadena. While engaged in a reconnaissance hike in the canyon in preparation for a botanizing project, these two men were startled by the appearance of two fairly large digger pines. A search of the area for old cabins, trails, etc., proved negative and pointed out the possible significance of the find. Cones and branches were brought back to the school laboratory for positive identification.

The following week end Bertin and Flittner returned to the area and made some measurements of the trees. The following data resulted:

Tree No. 1 22" D.B.H.
67' height
Age estimated by branch whorl count: 45 years
Growth rate for last 10 years: bore shows
2 3/8" /10 years.

Tree No. 2. 19" D.B.H.
64' height
Age estimate by branch whorl count: 47 years
Growth rate for last 10 years: bore shows
2 5/8"/10 years

A count of 18 seedlings was made within 50 feet of the trees. These seedlings varied from 1" to 8' in height.

An abundant crop of cones was present. The trees are in good condition.

The site is a rich, damp flat supporting bracken fern and blackberries.

The location of this site is about 1 mile down canyon from the Markam Saddle on the Upper Brown Mountain Truck Trail. Just below the digger pines are some large Incense Cedar; one of these measures 17' 5" in circumference at B.H.

Local questioning yielded no information on the history of these pines. It is hoped that someone who reads this article may be able to tell us something about them. Write to R. J. Ball
John Muir College
Pasadena, California

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

---

DeWitt Nelson — State Forester
William H. Fairbank — Editor
Frances Skewes — Assistant Editor
Cover by Fred Gordon — Delineator



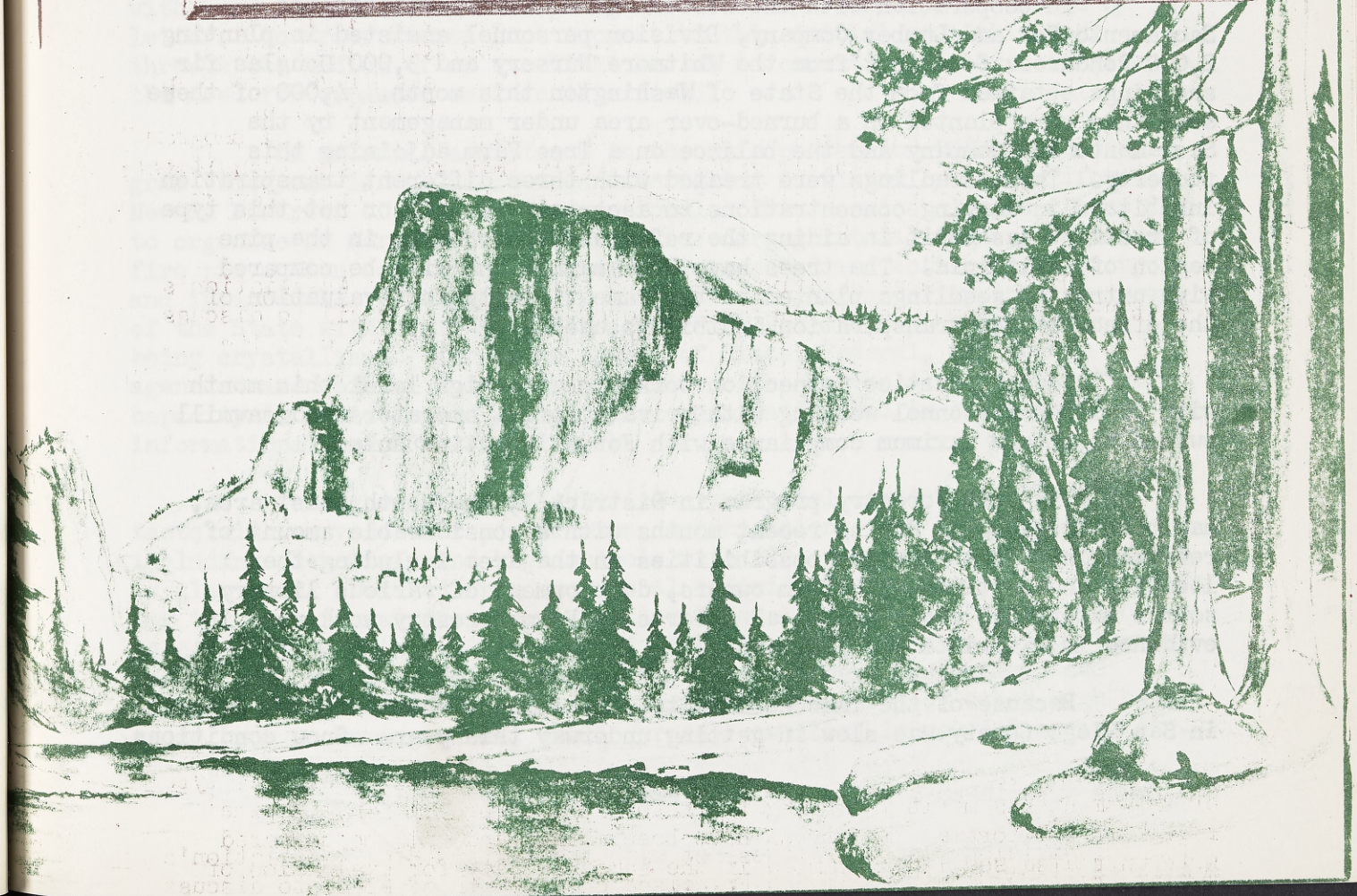
APRIL 1949 VOL 8 NO. 4

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

During the last week of April a training session for Division Forest Technicians and allied personnel was held at the Dew Drop C.Y.A. Camp in Amador County. The instruction was designed primarily for Forest Technical personnel working in the pine and mixed conifer type forests. The session was a cooperative venture of this Division, the U. S. Forest Service, the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, and the University of California. Experts in practically every field of forestry attended the session to discuss with Division personnel many of the aspects of forestry in California. Division personnel had the benefit of instruction from such experts as Silviculturist Duncan Dunning of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Henry J. Vaux, Professor of Forest Economics, University of California; George Struble and J. W. Bongberg, Forest Entomologists from the Insect Laboratory at Berkeley; W. W. Wagener, Forest Service Pathologist; Charles Kraebel, Watershed Management Expert, from the California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

Division representatives met with the Western Pine Association's Forest Practice Committee in San Francisco on the 28th of April to discuss ways and means and techniques for obtaining better compliance with the Forest Practice Rules, the Christmas tree problem, and the Tree Farm program.

Received this month from Oregon were 7,000 Douglas fir seedlings, 1,200 of these were planted on the Ellen Pickett State Forest and the balance have been placed in cold storage to be planted at a later date on the LaTour State Forest when the area becomes accessible into the forest.

In cooperation with the Western Pine Association and the Sacramento Box and Lumber Company, Division personnel assisted in planting 2,000 Ponderosa Seedlings from the Whitmore Nursery and 3,000 Douglas fir seedlings obtained from the State of Washington this month. 4,000 of these seedlings were planted on a burned-over area under management by the Sacramento Box Company and the balance on a Tree Farm adjoining this property. These seedlings were treated with three different transpiration inhibitors in varying concentrations to ascertain whether or not this type of treatment has merit in aiding the reforestation program in the pine region of California. The trees have been marked and will be compared with untreated seedlings planted in the same vicinity for evaluation of the effect of the transpiration inhibitors used.

Forest practice inspection work was at a high level this month with Division personnel working with private forest operators and sawmill owners to obtain maximum compliance with Forest Practice Rules.

The Farm Forestry program in District I, the North Coast area, has been progressing during recent months with a considerable amount of research into farm forestry possibilities in the area including the location and contacts with farm owners, development of various library source materials, etc. Identical efforts in Farm Forestry work were in evidence in Districts II, III, and V.

Because of the inaccessibility, the Julian Insect Control program in San Diego County was slow in getting underway this year. Snow conditions

in this part of the State were severe. The control program was not as extensive as the one last year with but $3,000 allocated from State, County, and private funds. Efforts were again concentrated in the Whispering Pine Hills, Deer Lake Park, Julian, and Kentwood areas. Nearly 100% of these areas were covered during February, March, and April. The control work consisted of treating some 275 insect infested trees primarily through the piling and burning method. It will be recalled that last year in these areas, because of a dry winter, insect work was most active throughout the entire winter period and infestations were occurring nearly as fast as control measures were being undertaken. Such a condition did not exist this year primarily because of the cold weather. It is interesting to note that past winter weather materially assisted control work as far as the Ips beetle was concerned for penetrating prolonged cold weather has a disastrous effect on this species of beetle. This same condition, however, does not hold as true for the western pine beetle or Dendroctonus species. The potential insect epidemic in Idlywild area of Riverside County was attack this Spring period cooperatively by this Division and the U. S. Forest Service with funds including $2000 of State money, $2000 of matching funds from the Riverside County Flood Control District and similar assistance from the U. S. Forest Service. State crews felled, piled, and burned some 183 trees, worked a total of 140 manhours. The U.S. Forest Service accomplished about the same amount of work on government land.

In all parts of the State Division personnel were actively engaged during the month in intensifying fire prevention efforts in both the educational and hazard reduction fields. The State-wide educational program under the sponsorship of the California Fire Prevention Committee, whose Chairman is State Forester Nelson, got under way during the month with more than 150 cooperating organizations and concerns contacted by letter. Governor Warren lent support to this initial move this year through the medium of an excellent letter to committee members stressing the need for expanded work in this field.

Of material assistance in the fire prevention informational program this year is an industrious undertaking initiated by the California-Nevada District of Kiwanis International. This service club is attempting to organize in more than 200 communities throughout California, citizens' fire prevention committees made up of interested and active local groups and individuals. The program is progressing satisfactorily in many areas of the State with committees already taking shape and plans for work being crystallized. Forest personnel of State, Federal, and County agencies are working in cooperation with this service club in an advisory capacity in assisting in preliminary organization and in subsequent informational and educational work.

Throughout the State Division personnel continued their contacts with service clubs, sportsmen, organizations, and local groups, including elementary and high schools with fire prevention talks. Support is also being obtained from many local individuals and groups in strengthening the educational program at the local level. Roadside hazard reduction, in cooperation with the Division of Highways, and County Road Departments was in full swing in most parts of the State as were inspections and contacts with individuals and organizations in control of other high hazard areas such as dump grounds, public areas, sawmills, industrial areas, etc.

A preliminary investigation this month of the reseeding project on the Green River fire that burned last November more than 40,000 acres of watershed land in Orange County, indicated that the project was partially satisfactory. The investigation indicated that in some areas as much as 75 to 80% was satisfactorily stocked with mustard, the principle species sown on the area for erosion control. Unfortunately, during and after the reseeding program very high Santana winds were experienced in this area which not only blew the mustard seed from the steep slopes and ridge tops but moved a tremendous amount of soil from steep slopes and ridge tops into canyon bottoms. There was marked evidence in some areas that more than an inch of top soil was removed through this wind activity. There still exists a very definite possibility of damage from excessive erosion and subsequent siltation of the Santiago reservoir if heavy rains occur. Investigation of the area will continue and, if advisable and practicable, it is possible that some of the area may again be reseeded this coming winter with the hopes of getting a partial cover on bare areas.

Unless weather conditions change materially, the outlook for the summer fire season at this writing is most hazardous for in all sections of the State vegetation is already dry and in most places readily inflammable. Many fires have been experienced to date, but, fortunately, none have reached any considerable size. Ranger units are building up fire suppression crews as rapidly as possible to meet the hazards. In all districts active training sessions have either been completed or are under way. These training programs will continue throughout the summer season but are especially concentrated during the next month and a half as new employees are added for the summer fire suppression work.

Fire suppression equipment received this month include twelve Dodge power wagons that will be constructed into crew trucks, and 7 Ford pickups, three of which will be modified to pickup pumpers. 20 Reo chassis and cabs are on purchase order with delivery contemplated within the next ten days. These will be constructed into 400 gallon forest fire trucks with 250 gallon G.P.M. Pumps. Ten crew trucks of 1½ ton capacity are now in the process of being advertised for construction. A purchase order was written this month for one International Diesel West Coast Truck Tractor. This vehicle will be used with a 25 ton tilt bed trailer now in the process of construction. Sold this month at Davis through auction to the highest bidder were 29 pieces of equipment and one tractor all equipment having been withdrawn from service. The Division realized approximately $13,000 on the sale.

The Division's radio system is improving slowly with experiments being conducted this month by the Division of Communications and our technicians in an attempt to overcome the operational difficulties experienced last year. A new type antenna called the Scoplane has been found to improve reception measurably as have certain changes of condensers within the several types of sets used by the Division. It is hoped that by continuing this type of experimental work our radio coverage will be improved over that of last year which in many instances was far from satisfactory. Bids for new radio sets have been circulated, have been returned, and are presently in the hands of the Division of Communications. The equipment involved includes 154 mobile units, 54 suppression stations receivers, 1 land station, and 4 repeater units.

During the week of April 25 oral examinations were held in Sacramento, San Francisco, and Los Angeles for the position Forest Fire

Foreman. 118 Candidates were examined, the majority seem to be of high caliber, many of whom have worked for the Division as fire fighters and are now fire truck drivers. Many expressed sincere interest in the Division's work and were hopeful that they could work up through the ranks to the ranger position and above.

Construction work was maintained at a high level this month and many projects were completed. Work involved included several ranger headquarters office and residence, buildings, warehouse and shop buildings, remodeling of office, barracks, and shop buildings, bridge construction, and other essential work.

FOREST SERVICE FIRE FILM WINS NATIONAL SAFETY AWARD

"Then It Happened," a Forest Service documentary film based on the Maine fires which occurred in the fall of 1947, has been awarded a "Safety Oscar" as the best 1948 motion picture in the field of general safety by the National Committee on Films for Safety, a division of the National Safety Council, the Forest Service in the U. S. Department of Agriculture was informed today.

The scenes shown in the picture were photographed on the ground, while the fire which did damage to forests and property estimated at $30,000,000 still raged. The film was directed by Clint Davis, Forest Fire Prevention Specialist of the Forest Service and the actual scenes were photographed by George Ortlieb, of the Department of Agriculture's Motion Picture Service. The story was written by Bill Bergoffen of the Forest Service Division of Information and Education.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. What are three common scales on topographic sheets?

2. What are three colors commonly used on U.S.G.S. topographic sheets and what do they represent?

3. Name a California Pine which is not too important commercially in California but is valued as a timber tree in Australia.

4. Can immature forest trees be exempt from taxation in the State of California?

5. Can an officer of the Division give a person a camp fire permit which would authorize him to build a camp fire on lands of another private individual?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #2, VOL. 8 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. Under the Forest Practice Act the State is divided into four Districts. Their names are as follows: District I, Redwood Forest District; District II, North Sierra Pine Forest District; District III, South Sierra Pine Forest District; District IV, Coast Range Pine and Fir Forest District.

2. White Pine Blister Rust attacks members of the White Pine group and members of the Ribies or Currant, Gooseberry group.

These two groups of plants are known as alternate hosts of the disease and without both plants the disease cannot complete its life cycle and survive.

3. Many sections of the Health and Safety Code are contained in the Forest and Fire Laws. A study of a copy will confirm this.

4. "Blank Cartridges" are among the several things classed as "Dangerous Fireworks".

5. Two Acts enabling Federal cooperation with States in matters of reforestation and land management are:

   1. The Clarke-McNary Act of June 7, 1924
   2. The Fulmer Act of August 29, 1935

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### TUOLUMNE COUNTY TAKES TO THE AIR

At 7:30 P.M., May 20, 1949, the old cronies and acquaintances of Ed Minners, State Ranger of Tuolumne County, and Bill Spargo, District Ranger of the United States Forest Service for this area, are invited to tune in at 1450 on their dial and hear the voices of authority on the Whys, Wheres, and Whens of forest fires.

Fifteen minutes each Friday night at this time will be devoted by Ed and Bill in trying to make the public more fire conscious in our continuous struggle for public training in stopping fires before they start.

This time on the air has been donated to these two fire fighting agencies by station KROG, managed by station manager, Bob Allene and in this way are showing their interest in the combating of forest fires.

So remember—
7:30 P.M. May 20, 1949
1450 on your dial.

S. L. Sinclair
Assistant State Ranger

### AMADOR "COLLEGE" IN SESSION

First to ring the school bell in Amador's April school session was Extension Forester Woodbridge Metcalf. Assisted by Rudolph Grah, he toured the County's schools and really sold his audiences on fire prevention. Assistant Ranger Vernon Stahl and Fire Truck Driver Johnny Waterman furnished a number of props, including a shiny red truck fresh off Auburn's paintshop assembly line.

The next school session occurred during the last week in April when our Dew Drop Station almost burst its seams under an invasion by a group of technical personnel training in pine and mixed conifer types. A varied curriculum included Principal Phases of Timberland Management, Watershed

Management, Effect of Insects and Disease on the Stand, and Control Methods, and Minor Forest Products and Markets. From all reports it appeared a toss-up which subject proved the most popular, but the value derived was sufficient to merit numerous suggestions for making this school an annual or even semi-annual event. The instructing staff included Messrs. Dunning, Vaux, Kraebel, Hallin, and Clements from the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Messrs. Baker, Colwell and Zivnuska from the University of California, Messrs. Struble, Bongberg, Sovulewski and Blomstrom of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Messrs. Kevin and Wagener from Reg. 5 of the U.S. Forest Service.

Students included George Craig of the Western Pine Association, and the following CDF personnel: Adams, Arvola, Bennett, Denny, Dotta, Dowdakin, Fenlon, Fenner, Goldsmith, Grogan, Grundman, Harris, Huberty, Maguire, McKeen, Meyer, Minners, Phibbs, Rice, Schlobohm, Sechrist, Sischo, and Throop. Foreman Johnny Johnson earned a special commendation for his work in preparing his camp for the school. Lending a steadying hand was Frank Jenkins, Assistant Ranger from Placer County, whose services were loaned for the special job of Camp Boss. One of the high spots of the school was the chow, ably and tastily prepared by Cook Archie Ramsey. Aides to Camp Boss Jenkins were Norman Brott of Nevada County and John Vincencio of Placer County. We of District III, and more particularly of Amador County, are pleased to have been selected hosts for this first school.

The dust flew at Sutter Hill headquarters on April 19th and 20th as Luther Gordon and Floyd Wakeley from the State Forester's office conducted practical tests for Forestry Equipment Operators and Forest Firetruck Drivers, all as a part of the Personnel Board examinations. Assisted by Mechanic Bill Heuston, Assistant Ranger Vernon Stahl, and FEO Roy Moon of Tuolumne County, they tested 21 driver applicants and 9 equipment operator applicants. Representatives of the Personnel Board came out from Sacramento to observe the manner in which the examinations were conducted and appeared to approve the efficiency of the operation.

The close of the month found us preparing to bid farewell to Associate Ranger Mueller and to welcome his successor Ranger George Phibbs. Walt has served the Division and the people of Amador County a good many years and is now moving across the Mokelumne River into Calaveras where he will work with Ranger Jim Fenlon. His many friends here wish Walt success in his new assignment.

Vernon Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

NEWS FROM FRESNO COUNTY

During March the men from the Huron Fire Station on the Westside Fire District made some 18,000 cuttings from Tamarisks trees. These cuttings were distributed among members of the Westside Windbreak Association thru the aid of the Fresno County Farm Advisor. These trees are being planted by the local ranchers to form windbreaks for their cotton and grain crops and also as a protection for their ranch buildings. It is estimated that the 18,000 cuttings will provide approximately 30 miles of windbreak. The aid given to these ranchers by the Division of Forestry has been greatly appreciated by these men as evidenced thru their remarks on a series of radio programs on dust control.

A. Roy Bengard, State Forest Ranger

## FOREMAN LOZIER INJURED ON DISCING PROJECT

Foreman George R. Lozier of Mariposa County fortunately suffered only minor injuries on April 29th when the wheel tractor being used on a roadside discing project pulled over backwards. Investigation is underway to make certain changes in the ditch to prevent a reoccurrence.

D.E. Knowlton
Associate Forest Ranger

## DISTRICT IV REVIEWS INSTRUCTION TRAINING PROGRAM

District IV wishes to take this opportunity to review the Districts Vocational Instructor Training Program under the direction of Associate A. Filippini who represents the District in the overall Vocational Instructor Training Program.

So that all top Administrators would have first hand information relative to the Training Program, an 8-hour version of the course was presented to the District Deputy, his staff, Rangers, Associate Rangers, and other top administrators on January 25th, 1949.

From January 1st through the week of March 14 the Vocational Instructor Course was presented to all Ranger Units from this District. Attending the various training meetings were representatives of Kings County, Merced County, Stanislaus County Fire Departments, Sierra National Forest and others. This course was presented to a total of 154 persons.

The Training Guide consists of (1) Introduction, Policy and Objective. (2) The 40 hour Vocational Instructor Training Course, divided into 5 Sessions. (3) District IV Fire Control Group Occupational Analysis. (4) Ranger District Initial Training Plan. (5) Safety Plan. (6) Progress Chart and (7) Standardized Lesson Plans. Each year long employee has a copy of this Training Guide.

During the Vocational Instructor Training meetings, each student submitted four lesson plans. Two and sometimes three were assigned by Block - Unit - Job. One or two were optional, consequently, there was some duplication. The "blanks" in the Occupational Analysis were assigned on April 1st to each Ranger District for the preparation of needed lesson plans.

The Lesson Plans are standardized prior to mimeographing by: Additions made during the courses, critique discussions; being checked by the Ranger District Training Officer, then by the District Training Officer who incorporates the material of the duplicates and then checks the material of each lesson plan against at least (an average) four reference manuals, materials, etc. The plans are then forwarded to the District Office where they are spot checked. We are taking advantage of all printed reference materials that are available; regardless of origin.

We, in District IV, are deeply grateful for the interest and attitude, the desire to learn, and the ability of application that has been shown during the training session by every man employed in District IV.

Alvin B. Filippini
Associate State Forest Ranger

## PHIBBS MOVES TO AMADOR COUNTY AS RANGER

Co-workers of Ranger George Phibbs here in District IV are congratulating him upon his recent appointment as Ranger in Amador County. George came to District IV as an Associate Ranger shortly after his release from the U. S. Navy and was later appointed to Headquarters Ranger in charge of Fire Control.

Those of us who have worked with George have grown to appreciate his sincerity and enthusiasm in carrying out all phases of his work, however, we are confident that our loss is a definite gain to District III and the Division in general.

Best of luck, George, and when the ducks fly high we will expect you and your trusty Fido to be in our midst.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

## NEWS FROM KINGS COUNTY

The main event in Kings County at present is the "Fire Prevention Program." A Citizens' Committee has been formed by the people to further the advancement of the program. Ranger Lindley, has been called upon to attend meeting after meeting for the past ten days in regard to setting up this program. According to the interest and enthusiasm received by this committee, a fine job should be done, also, they are looking forward to new material for this program. All service clubs, along with other public organizations have selected one person to handle one particular phase of the work in order that not one person will be overlooked.

Fire guards have been employed for the west side of the valley, trucks are being brought into headquarters one at a time for new paint jobs and repairs in preparedness for the coming fire season. Burning permits are in order and the ranchers are calling at the office in an everlasting procession for them.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

## DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

Added to our staff in District VI Headquarters is May Kluchka, Intermediate Typist Clerk. We welcome May into the family circle and hope her stay is a long and pleasant one.

In keeping with the mechanized world of today, District VI Headquarters has also added to its staff the "Ediphone". The men of the office prefer it much to stenographers as it doesn't talk back. The stenographers are withholding comment. In honor of Carolyn Brown, Intermediate Stenographer, who is moving to El Centro the first of May, this machine is being named "Egghead".

Added to the staff at Perris, Riverside County Headquarters, is Pansy Harang, Intermediate Stenographer Clerk. Pansy replaces Maureen Bricknell and we all welcome Pansy into the fold.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Work has already begun in San Diego County on our exhibit for the San Diego County Fair, which is held in July at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Assistant Ranger Mike Schori and Foreman Bill Seehorn are hard at work on an entomological display, using large colored drawings on which Bill has put many hours of labor.

Colonel Fischer and Dr. Harbison, both of the San Diego Museum of Natural History, have offered their cooperation and any assistance they can give toward helping this exhibit along, in the way of their reference library, insect exhibits, etc. Needless to say, this is a wonderful opportunity and their generous offer is greatly appreciated.

Since much more work is to be done on this exhibit, we will report more next month.

E. S. Miller
State Forest Ranger

PROGRESS IN THE JULIAN INSECT PROGRAM

The Julian Insect progress has been plodding along steadily. The progress is as follows:

Mr. Patterson and Mr. Engen of the Bureau of Entomology have been here supervising the toxic spraying of Ips Confusus, Oregemi and Western Pine Beetle infestations with D.D.T., solvent and diesel oil as the formula. The trees sprayed were Coulter Pine and Jeffrey Pine. Equipment was the Dodge Power Wagon, equipped with Bean Hi Pressure Pump. Two Firetruck Drivers (Tipton and Davis) were decked out in complete covering of Neoprene. One man sprayed while the other operated the pump and truck.

The spraying of the Ips infested trees consisted of a fine spray on the main bole under the faded top while the Dendroctomus Brevicomis infesting the main bole was sprayed.

During the time to allow penetration into the bark, the men were busy constructing trap cages that Mr. Patterson had the pleasure to "patent". Into these cages were placed the sprayed section of either one or the other type of two along with an unsprayed section of the same type for a check.

Now, we set back and see if the spray has lived up to its reputation.

A total of 68 trees were sprayed. They are divided as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| (Pinus Coulteri) | Coulter Pine | Ips | D.B. |
| (Pinus Jeffreyi) | Jeffrey Pine | Ips | D.B. |

In the meanwhile the falling crew have been mowing them down. They have covered the Pine Hills area, Julian Pines, Julian Townsite and are now settled down in the Whispering Pines area falling trees between the residences and power lines, thus slowing progress. They have felled over

100 trees so far. The regular crew of 4 are at this augmented by an extra man when conditions prevail. The duty of the falling consists of falling, limbing, and bucking.

While the Mt. Woodson Forestry Camp Crew follows along stacking to their own method and burning. Soon the Forestry Camp crew will be up with the fallers. Burning conditions are getting to be very marginal and burning must be carefully supervised. The Mt. Woodson Forestry Camp crew consists of 11 boys and "Red" Worsham as Foreman.

Aside from the Beetle Project, we are opening Mt. Cuyamaca Road to the lookout and Radio repeater and generator. Mr. John Tomko is operating the HD 7, Bulldozer, thru snow depth of 5 and 6 feet. That project will soon be completed, so our Mr. Holcomb (Radio Technician) can ride in grand fashion to the summit and start our FM radio tests.

Guy A. Konnersman
Assistant Ranger

NEWS FROM ORANGE COUNTY

As a part of our Conservation and Fire Prevention Program this year, trees were planted in Irvine Park by members of the LaJolla Junior High School of Placentia. Fire prevention talks and movies were given at other schools as well.

The State Division of Forestry Headquarters Station at Orange assisted in providing men and equipment for examinations for Truck Drivers and Equipment Operators, April 6, 7, and 8.

Everyone is busily engaged in Spring maintenance work on roads, telephone lines, as well as maintenance of buildings and minor construction projects. Approximately one hundred applicants have been interviewed for Forest Fire Fighter positions indicating a plentiful labor supply for this position.

"In Spring a young man's fancy....." Drivers Stanley Overton, Herman Gedney, and Bob Alderson have indicated plans for taking the fatal step. It appears that they are getting tired of ironing their own shirts. Ranger Joe Scherman is still popping buttons off his shirt where Grandson Michael is concerned. When last seen, Joe was trying to sign him up for a Forestry Equipment Operator. However, there is an age limit for that position and since Mike is only six months old, it was thought best to wait for a while.

Ida M. Rolls
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

GREETINGS FROM RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Yes, we are still alive and kicking in Riverside after coming out from under a winter work program that has kept us all jumping. We have just about worn out the District dump truck, and I know the Foremen working on the end of these one-man long handled skip loaders are showing signs of wear. The cause---preparing the site of our proposed Elsinore

Station, which seems to be taking on the shape of a reality.

We are very sorry to inform friends of Mel Miller, our new Assistant Ranger, that on the afternoon of April 4 his home and the home of his parents was gutted by fire. Mel and his folks lost their furnishings and clothes--P.S. We like to give old friends a warm welcome, but this was carrying it too far.

It seems that one of our Dispatchers, Sam Heidanus by name, was bitten by the love bug and decided to sneak off and get married to Beverly Brown, a local school teacher,without letting his fellow workers know about it. Sam did not take into consideration that, on the evening he tied the knot, his fellow workers had spent the day becoming Super-Slueths under the guidance of Norm Harris and Sam Waugh. Need I say that we went to work, and the happy couple, Sam and Beverly, were slightly surprised when they departed for a short honeymoon and received such a rousing send-off. Congratulations Sam and Bev.

The Beetle Project in progress near Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains is coming along as well as can be expected after a slow start due to the heavy snowfall in that area. We expect to have the project completed by May 1. Assistant Ranger Charles Van Fleet is in charge of the operations and being ably assisted by Clarence Thomas, Foreman of the San Jacinto Station.

William J. Nickerl
Assistant Ranger

FROM RAINBOW C.A.A. CAMP, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The end of April will see the completion of the Guejito Truck Trail job, which has been the center of interest for two crews of the Rainbow C A A Camp for the past four months. Those in the Division who know what the Guejito used to be like, will be pleased to know that it has been widened, curves have been straightened, and 21 culverts have been installed, also many of the rocks have been removed. Rights-of-way along the road has been cleared.

The Guejito area has for along time been center of talk, such as: "I hope that fire does not get into the Guejito", or "I hope we do not get one on the Guejito". Well, if we should get one in there now, we can get to it and feel fairly sure of coming out O.K.

C. A. Brown
Forestry Work Project Supervisor

M-9-1

MAY 1949 VOL 8 NO 5

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



The month of May saw the forest fire season start with vigor as the weather turned hot. As of May 31st there were 63 more fires than for the same period last year but only 95 more acres burned. Prospects of a severe fire season are in evidence due to shortage of annual rainfall, unseasonal temperatures, and low humidities with more than usual strong winds in evidence. During May, fire suppression stations and lookouts were opened, equipped for operation, and crews put to work on maintenance and hazard reduction projects. As employees reported for duty they were given training which will continue throughout the fire season. The employment situation has changed and it is now possible to carefully select personnel which will be very helpful throughout the season.

Forest Service personnel of the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests met with Division personnel from District IV and the Sacramento office in Porterville May 20, 1949. This meeting was held to clarify the responsibilities of the two agencies regarding State Statutory Fire Laws and Forest Practice Rules within the pay protection area of the U. S. Forest Service.

The Forest Practice Committee of the Redwood District met in Scotia May 26 to discuss problems of compliance with representatives of companies involved. The eleventh Redwood Region Logging Conference and Logging Equipment Show was held in Eureka May 27-28. William S. Rosecrans, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry, and Francis H. Raymond, Deputy State Forester, presented to the group the operation of the State Forest Practice Rules. DeWitt Nelson, State Forester, enlightened the Conference on a few of the pending State Laws affecting lumbering in California. General Warren T. Hannum, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, addressed the group following the annual dinner, on the subject "A Continuing Supply of Forest Products for California's Growing Population and Industries."

Fire Prevention Programs have been carried on in all parts of the State in a strong effort to "Keep California Green and Golden." School teachers in San Bernardino County have an excellent Fire Prevention Program worked out. 200 additional roadside signs have been erected throughout the State warning the public to be careful with matches, lighted cigarettes, etc. Hazard reduction work is being carried on in all districts, 90% having been completed in District IV. In Santa Clara County 160 miles of County road in State Responsibility areas have been sprayed at County expense and are now being burned by State and County crews cooperatively. Last year a total of 80 miles were treated and burned with such good results that the program was doubled this year in that County. In Orange County all fire-road maintenance was completed. Some 6,295 people were contacted through some 16 demonstrations in this county.

Radio School was held at Davis and Technicians should now be in position to make the necessary changes to radio units to increase operational efficiency over that of last year. The 100th Fiscal Year radio additional equipment has been selected and purchase orders written.

Crews were sent into Mt. Home State Forest to prepare the camp for C.Y.A. occupation and found that heavy winter snows had crushed the roof of a 20 x 70 ft. barracks. The entire roof has been replaced and shingled. June 1st found it occupied by C.Y.A. crews from Coarsegold. In San Diego County the Butler Building construction at Ramona is approaching completion. The Paso Robles Fire Control Station in San Luis Obispo County is almost completed. Progress is also being made on the Ranger residence.

In Riverside County May found the completion of the Insect Control Project at Idyllwild for this season, with regular spring activities well in hand.

Bids are now out for the construction of 20 - 400 gallon capacity forest fire trucks to be equipped with 250 GPM fire pumps, ten combination tanker and crew trucks, 200 gallon capacity, equipped with 150 GPM fire pumps and 12 - 4-wheel drive Dodge power wagon combination tanker and crew trucks with 40 GPM capacity fire pumps. Also in process of award for construction will be nine pickup pumpers equipped with 80 GPM fire pumps and 60 to 100 gallon capacity water tanks dependent on vehicle size. Two 25-ton capacity tilt bed trailers have been delivered, one will be stationed in Amador County and another in the Fresno area. Bids have been received for eleven track-layer type tractors and angle-type bulldozers. The respective proposed bidders are presently engaged in mounting angle dozers and towing winches and other accessories for purpose of inspection and "field testing" by the Division of Forestry staff. Delivery is contemplated within sixty days.

Sale #8 of obsolete Forestry equipment and vehicles to highest bidder is now being conducted for some forty units at the Davis Forestry Station.

OPERATIONS OFFICER MOVES TO NEW HOME

Operations Officer, Melvin Pomponio has just moved into his newly constructed home in River Park. He has been spending his vacation getting his family settled. Lucky man!

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

Up until 7:00 p.m. of June 5th Placer County has never had a definite yard stick to measure the results of fire prevention activities. However, we can now boast of having tangible measurement of our success in the form of a gold cup 12¼" high by 4" in diameter, representing the prize for second place in the Commercial Division of the Auburn Gold Show parade on June 5th.

Our float was prepared by Assistant Ranger Jack Amundsen and F.E.O. Al Dickerman and consisted of a burned area adjacent to an unburned area with a sign underneat stating, "DO YOU WANT THIS?..... OR THIS?". Below was another sign, "Always Be Careful."

Mounted at the front of the truck was a replica of a lookout tower. The Mack transport was used for the float and during the preparation Amundsen and Dickerman were sweating out every fire hoping that it would not be necessary to send the dozer.

Our problem now is to keep the cup in a spot where it can prevent "10-4" Bennetts from slapping an identification tag on it and picking it up on his property records.

Congratulations are in order to Jack and Al for their fine work which, in addition to winning the cup, provided a graphic representation of fire damage that drove home the need for fire prevention to the several thousand spectators who viewed the parade.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

NEW RANGER HEADQUARTERS IN KINGS COUNTY

Associate Ranger, C. E. Lindley, complained this month that recent Division of Forestry visitors to Kings County evidently have failed to note recent announcements in the News Letter and other media that the new ranger headquarters for Kings County has been completed and personnel are now residing therein. Lindley complains that several visitors have insisted in seeking out the Ranger's Office by first going to the County Court House in Hanford where formerly the Ranger's Office was maintained. The new office was completed March 1 of this year, is a three room building consisting of Ranger's Office, Clerk and Dispatcher's Office, and work room. Mr. Lindley would like forestry visitors to know that the Ranger's Office is no longer in the Court House.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT IV - WEST DISTRICT

Recently while doing roadside disking, Foreman Dick Lozier experienced a near disaster. Dick had occasion to negotiate a gully, which, to look at it, doesn't seem too steep. It proved, however, to be too steep for one of the new Massey Harris wheel tractors. Even tho Dick was on the alert for trouble the machine tipped over backwards as it was climbing the slope of the gully. It came to rest standing on end, leaning slightly to the rear. The fenders and seat supported the machine, no doubt saving Dick's life. As it was Dick received injuries to the back and one leg, which we hope will not prove serious.

We are in the midst of an extremely busy and hectic time, probably no more so than any of you; but anyhow we think we are really hitting the ball. Anyhow, what with the opening of the seasonal stations, hazard reduction, road and telephone maintenance, various construction projects and occasional fires.

It appears that the stockmen are to experience another bad year for feed. The mid-winter rains, at first, seemed very encouraging. However, the extremely cold weather, combined with the lack of late rains caused a very short growing period for the feed. The stockmen are having to move their stock a month earlier than usual in the lower reaches of the county.

J. F. Rosar
Assistant Ranger

Associate Ranger Norman F. Nicholson of Coalina District is now a proud father. A boy was born at the Coalinga Hospital on May 12, 1949. Nick has exhausted his supply of cigars and we are sure he will survive, this being his first child and having a fire occur while his wife was in the hospital.

Robert O. Wilcher, Foreman at the Squaw Valley Station, took the

fatal leap on May 14, 1949. His bride was the former Margaret Smith of Fresno.

Fire season is now in full swing in Fresno County. The crews are busy opening stations, completing the hazard reduction program, which now consists of roadside burning, getting the new 4 x 8 signs installed and placing the new fire messages on the existing signs.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

For the first time in two seasons, the Fort Millerton Station at Friant will be manned by a full crew. The building has been painted inside and out and the cook's quarters have been completed. A new Dodge crew truck has been assigned to the Station. After the water system is installed, an abundant supply will be available to landscape the property. No pumping problem here, since we will tap directly on to the Bureau of Reclamation system.

At our Hurley Station, the unit containing the dining room, kitchen, and cook's quarters is completed and will be occupied for the first time. The crew will continue to sleep in a tent, but the new building will provide excellent permanent facilities for food preparation and serving. Installation of power and telephone connections will be finished before the station is officially activated. Work will continue on construction of the garage, oil house and pump house. The "Pickle Wagon" will be at Hurley Station as usual. The crew truck was so named by the cook of two seasons ago because of the C.D.F. number "57".

The Blasingame Station has the new look this year. Two crew trucks instead of one have been assigned and a new GMC pickup for the Assistant Ranger was delivered in late March.

The water system at Blasingame is being improved. Last year, it was necessary to haul drinking water when our spring ran low. Now a pressure system and dug well will be put into operation.

An unusual landmark at this station is the grove of eastern persimmon trees (Diospyros virginiana to the educated). There are approximately forty trees, the largest being eighteen inches D.B.H. The seedlings have shown remarkably fast growth. Some sections of 12 inch cement pipe were stored on end near the largest trees four years ago. Now a tree about three inches in diameter and twenty feet tall is growing from one of the pipes.

Additional buildings are contemplated, including a pump house and a gas and oil storage building.

Fred W. Keast
Assistant Ranger

Madera County would have traded its newest Dodge pumper cheap for a fire boat recently to handle a half acre grass and brush fire isolated on an island of the San Joaquin River. A wading party consisting of Associate Ranger A. B. Filippini and Foreman Richard Ballard reconnoitered and then retired to higher ground on a standby basis while the fire ran its course. They still maintain they were protecting adjacent property and were waiting for high tide, irrespective of the nightmares invited by mop-up of the

driftwood infested fire area.

Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester of the University of California, got hot on this business of selling fire prevention at Chowchilla May 28 after he was run off a light University truck by a cigarette fire which destroyed $750 worth of cargo on which he was riding. Metcalf reported a cigarette from a passing car probably landed in the load of tents. Net personal loss: first degree burns on fingers of his right hand, a first class hot seat and retreat with full loss of dignity.

Richard T. Ford
Forest Fire Dispatcher

It is with a great deal of pleasure we can report that the three day Memorial Day period brought no fires to the hills of Madera County. Light and occasional showers undoubtedly had some retarding effect as our area was receptive for burning prior to the end of the month. The weather was cool and not particularly attractive for picnics, so the elements smiled upon us probably for the last time this season. Only one camp fire was reported and every party contacted appeared cooperative and conscious of the fire hazard.

While the traffic on Highway 41 to Bass Lake and Yosemite areas was the heaviest on record, not a single wreck was found. The Highway Officers and Forestry men who were on the three-car patrol felt that the heavy rains in the high country so dampened the spirits of the crowd that most of them went straight home with few stops on the road. This was particularly noticeable on Sunday night when the traffic was heavy as everyone seemed to leave for their Valley homes en masse.

All observations seem to confirm the often repeated statement that the weather conditions have more to do with both traffic and fire than is usually credited.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

Mr. Frank F. LaBelle has just reported to work as the new Assistant Civil Engineer in District IV. The District is extremely happy to have an engineer assigned to the area as the work load has been extremely heavy in the past.

The members of District IV wish to extend a very hearty welcome to Frank and hope that he has some very enjoyable associations in the years to come.

D. E. Knowlton
Acting Deputy State Forester

TRAVELING POSTERS

The following is an article written by Assistant State Forester Ranger Donal L. Russell:

"On the morning of May 28, I placed three Fire Prevention Posters on a small tear-drop camping trailer which belongs to my father-in-law,

Mr. L. B. Gould. That morning they were leaving our home in Gonzales for a vacation trip through all of Oregon and Washington, returning the length of the Golden State to their home near San Diego.

The posters I placed will take in almost every type of cover that we have in the three zones, i.e. farm land, brush, grass and timber. I placed the posters on the back of the trailer, and as Mr. Gould drives rather slowly, the cars on the highway will have plenty of time to read them.

Through the medium of the News Letter, I would be very interested in knowing whether any employees of the Division see this set-up any place on the road. Most vacationists and campers are very cooperative with our Fire Prevention Campaign, and I believe if they were asked, posters could be placed on their trailers. Some of the posters are actually beautiful, and I think the public would be interested in helping. As this happened just two days ago, I have not been able to make any contacts. Any ideas any of you might have, I am sure would be appreciated by all of us."

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

With the exodus from Headquarters of Carolyn Brown, who has gone to her Don and her little "Chateau" in Imperial, May Kluchka has taken over as Stenographer-Clerk. That new contralto you are hearing these days on the switchboard is the voice of Marie "Toni" Thalmann, our new operator.

All "butterflies" is Louise Fitzgerald since the return of her husband, Herb, from Operation "Vittles", Germany. Since then Louise is springing a new gadget on us every day; gifts from Herb to his Frau. Perhaps she will condescend to snap the Headquarters group with her new German camera.

Norman Harris gave the personnel at Headquarters an educational treat the other day with the showing of the films "Trees are a Crop" and "Green Harvest". Norm believes Fire Prevention should start at the office.

Mrs. Mace displayed her technique as Fire Crew Cook when she and Mr. Mace entertained at their lovely home the entire personnel of Headquarters, including husbands and wives.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The fire prevention program for San Bernardino County was augmented with two window displays placed in the Sage's Markets in the City of San Bernardino, consisting of one display showing weather instruments; anenometer, fan psychrometer, rain gauge, and fuel moisture scale, the other showing a dispatching map, Osborne firefinder, and field radio. The heading for both displays was "MORE FIRES MEANS LESS WATER." The two displays were shown from May 2, to May 10 at the markets. The two markets are large super markets controlled by the same company and are in heavily populated localities. The original intention was to have a fire prevention program in cooperation with the Ohio Match Company who originally secured the window space, but at the last minute they were forced to withdraw due to a decision from their main office fearing that the display might have a dampening effect on their sales program.

Loma Linda Fire Control Station was painted inside and out.

Extension to the truck repair shop at San Bernardino Headquarters was completed, adding two bays to our present shop.

Approximately twelve miles of roadside was disked along Highway #66 and work is commencing along Highway #18, Summit Valley.

Reshingling of San Bernardino Headquarters truck garage is about fifty percent completed.

The cork oak project at San Bernardino Headquarters wound up in a blaze of glory with disposal of the last of the cork oaks when 2,745 trees in one gallon cans were delivered to the Western Crown Seal Corporation in Los Angeles May 20, 1949.

A fire prevention program was put on at Joshua Tree for approximately seventy-five people, which ended by a call for an additional meeting at Joshua Tree the latter part of the month, for an explanation of County Ordinance No. 533 at a community meeting. Fire prevention programs were put on at Hinkley, Muscoy, Yucaipa, and a program for seventy-five high school teachers at Bloomington. The fire prevention program is expanding at a very rapid rate with more and more people requesting and receiving fire prevention talks, visual aids, and demonstrations.

A new salutation from Foreman to Associate Ranger has been introduced in San Bernardino County. The other day while inspecting the barracks at San Bernardino Headquarters, Associate Ranger Bryan was confronted with a closed shower curtain and water running full blast with strange blubbering sounds coming from within. Thinking someone was in distress, he inquired in a very polite voice, "What's going on in here?" He was immediately greeted by the gruff reply, "What the heck's it to you?" Throwing back the shower curtain, he was confronted by the scowling countenance of head Foreman H. LaPlant. Upon discovering to whom he had been talking, he turned a fiery red from head to toe, and muttered something about "I thought it was one of those crewmen". Now the salutation is "What the heck's it to you?" P.S. It was LaPlant's day off.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

ORANGE COUNTY

Sixteen fire prevention demonstrations at schools in Orange County were given in cooperation with the Farm Advisor's Office, to a total of 6,295 persons. Those giving the demonstrations were Wayne King, Forestry Dispatcher; Bill Corey, Assistant Farm Adviser; and Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester of the University of California. Subjects discussed included: Care of Fire in the Forest Areas; the Importance of Fire Prevention to the Watershed Areas; and, Fire Prevention Around the Home and Farm; the Proper and Improper Use of Gasoline and Cleaning Solvents, Electrical Circuits; The Cleanup of Basements and Attics; and the general cleanup around buildings.

Inspection of cabins in the mountainous areas of Orange County for clearance of inflammable vegetation and fire safety devices is going forward. Ranger Scherman has addressed a letter to all cabin owners in the mountainous

areas suggesting that they clear an additional one hundred feet beyond the thirty required by law. He pointed out that he is convinced after many years of experience of fighting fire in Southern California, and in view of the fire history of last fall -- in particular, the Green River Fire which burned during a fifty mile-an-hour wind -- that such minimum requirements are not enough to give proper safety to life and property in the narrow, steep, brushy canyons in the mountainous areas.

Approximately 19,000 acres of burned watershed areas sown to mustard after the Green River Fire is now better than 75% covered with mustard two to three feet high, even though the odds were against the program to some degree last winter, due to the many Santana Winds, the severe freeze the first part of January when a great part of the area was covered with snow. It is reported that wind erosion did grave damage to the entire area after the fire. Observations show that on top and on the eastern slopes, in many places, as much as two inches of soil has been blown off and deposited in the bottoms of some ravines and large canyons. Water company officials, and many others, are fearful that this soil will in time be moved down into the reservoirs and there is no way to stop it without large expenditures for check dams and settling basins at the upper end of the reservoir. Heavy rainfall is not the only cause for extensive erosion after a fire.

The State Division of Forestry in Orange County was host to the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens at a meeting on May 13th at San Juan Capistrano. Despite the fact that it was Friday the 13th, there were no casualties and everyone seemed to enjoy himself and gained knowledge of the other fellow's problems as well as information on the available manpower in Southern California for the coming fire season. The afternoon and evening meetings of the Foresters and Fire Wardens were preceeded by the Division of Forestry meeting conducted by Deputy Jim Mace. The day was topped off by an excellent barbecue dinner which was followed by an evening of indoor social events.

Two more of our Truck Drivers have made trips to the altar to say "I will." Bob Adlerson fetched his bride from Kansas; Stanley Overton claimed his bride in Garden Grove.

I. M. Rolls
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

INSECT CONTROL WORK IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY BROUGHT TO AN END

May 1st brought the termination of the 2nd winter of insect control effort in the Julian Insect Zone. Set up as a rework project over the same area that was covered last year, this winter's work was performed for different objectives from that of last year.

Following the work plan prescribed by Paul Keen of the Forest Insect Laboratory, this winter's control work was aimed at maximum elimination of those trees infested with the Western Pine Beetle consistent with time and money available. Some trees infested with Ips were treated but only where adjacent to or a part of a group of D.B. trees. Upon the spotting of the areas to be worked it was necessary to greatly revise early estimates of the number of D. B. trees in this locale. Two hundred sixty D. B. trees were spotted in all.

In the closing weeks of the project and since the last report, drivers J. Peters and C. Kearns were added to the treating crew while the Mt. Woodson Forestry Camp crew continued to aid with the piling and burning. As the warm weather of April continued, increased vigilance was necessary to keep all flash fires under control.

The experimental spray project carried on under the direction of the Forest Insect Laboratory came to a close the same time as the control work. However, as yet no conclusive result has been obtained as to the relative merit or demerit of insect control in the Julian area by the spraying of standing trees. In a recapitulation of the project some 500 man days were expended in the treating of 218 trees and in carrying on the experimental spray work.

Those trees treated this year average about 4" greater in D.B. H. (diameter breast high) than those treated last year with the average trees treated being 20". An area of some 10 sections were reworked during the 8 weeks of control this winter.

At the present time, with two winters control work accomplished and the benefit of a favorable winter just past, little future control work in this insect zone would be indicated. However, forthcoming early fall months will give much clearer picture of what future activities may still be necessary here.

John H. Hastings
Assistant Ranger

FOREST PRODUCTS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

An item of general divisional and public interest (especially to those who are pipe smokers) was brought to our attention some time ago by a Mr. Samuel Young of San Diego.

It deals with "Forest" Products of San Diego County. Mr. Young is in the pipe manufacturing business. He has put several thousand of dollars into the purchase of all lands throughout the southern district that contain the growth of "red shank". That is, he has purchased the red shank cover crop for the use at a later date for pipe manufacturing. It seems that for the most part pipe manufacture has been limited to Europe, mainly in Italy. Our native growth has tested out so superior to anything European that the attempt will be made to pull the trade out of Europe and start it up right here in San Diego County. A factory has been tentatively scheduled for location at Manzanita on Highway 80 about 16 miles east of Campo Ranger Station.

Mr. Young was also commended very highly by the U. S. Government during the war for his research work with Yucca fibre for clothing manufacture. Several factories in the east and south are now using Mr. Young's research findings in aiding their production. Yucca has been credited with the ability to produce fibres for weaving of a continuous length of 3 feet.

These two items will be featured at the San Diego County Fair in conjunction with our Forestry booth to show the general public some actual money-making products of our "brush forests".

R. W. Seehorn
FFF-Patrolman

FROM RAINBOW C.A.A. CAMP - SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The highlight of our activity during the month of May was the two day firefighting training given to the inmates of this camp by the Forestry personnel. The lesson material was well prepared and presented by Foreman W. R. Haley and L. E. Parks. The inmates showed considerable interest and many questions of general interest were asked.

Both crews have completed maintenance, roadside clearing and hazard reduction work on the Red Mountain Lookout Road, The McNally Road and two pieces of Couser Road. One crew is presently engaged on Boucher Hill installing a water system, constructing a small building to house the power unit and general landscaping work. The other crew is at present moving the Anza Telephone line between Anza Store and the Anza Station back approximately ten feet to allow widening of the highway.

Four working days were lost during the month due to rain.

C. A. Brown
Project Supervisor

On May 23, 1949, at 7:30 p.m. the first in a series of driver training programs was held at Camp Elliott for the Division of Forestry personnel in San Diego County engaged in the operation of motor vehicles. This meeting was attended by Mr. Ray Coblenz, Insurance Adviser for the Department of Finance, Mr. William Bennett, Safety Engineer for the Firemen's Fund Indemnity Company, and Highway Patrol Officer Howell of the California Highway Patrol. The above mentioned persons assisted in the program, giving their views on defensive driving and its importance as related to their functions. State Division of Forestry personnel present were Truck Drivers, Foremen, and Assistant Rangers who could be excused from their assignments. State Ranger Miller acted as chairman, turning the meeting over to Fire Prevention Officer Harris. Mr. Chatten, Associate Ranger, was also present.

The following films were shown in addition to the talks given by the previously mentioned guests:

1. "Defensive Driving" which explains the meaning of good manners and courtesy on the highway, resulting in better driving on the part of good drivers.

2. "If It Happens" was the next film shown, which deals with what should be done in case one is unfortunate enough to be involved in an accident.

3. "Traffic With The Devil" is a film put out by the Los Angeles Police Department, Traffic Division, in cooperation with the National Safety Council, dealing with those phases of driving which are bad manners on the highway and result in accidents, often causing fatalities. This picture definitely shows what happens when a driver is operating his vehicle in an offensive manner, rather than a defensive manner.

The entire program took approximately two hours. Mr. Coblenz of the Department of Finance, who is their insurance advisor, was very pleased

with the program and thought it was time well spent in a worthwhile manner. He stated that to his knowledge there were only two or three other departments in the State who had undertaken such a program and that District VI is the first to his knowledge to attempt such a program in the Division of Forestry. His comments were all of a complimentary nature and he had no suggestions to offer other than the program should be followed up to keep the drivers aware of its importance. It was his suggestion that this be done by monthly posters which can be obtained by the Insurance Company, or those made up by the Division of Forestry.

This program was shown again to the remainder of the San Diego County personnel on the following night, and was the same with the exception that Mr. Coblenz was not present.

The night of the 25th of May the program was put on at Indio for Division of Forestry personnel located in the desert area, and it was attended by them as well as the Indio Volunteer Fire Department.

On the night of the 26th of May the program was put on at Perris Headquarters of the Riverside County unit of the Division of Forestry and was attended by approximately 45 of the personnel.

The California Highway Patrol have been very cooperative in that at all meetings they have had a speaker present who has explained defensive driving and the responsibilities of operating emergency vehicles. Mr. Bennett of the Fireman's Fund Indemnity has been present at all meetings and discussed accidents from the Insurance Company's viewpoint, and the advantages of defensive driving in addition to the information needed on the accident reports.

Norman J. Harris
Forest Fire Prevention Officer

The California Division of Forestry
News Letter is published monthly in
Sacramento for and by Division personnel.
Its pages contain current facts, problems,
and events relating to forestry and to the
experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

JUNE 1949 VOL 8 NO 6

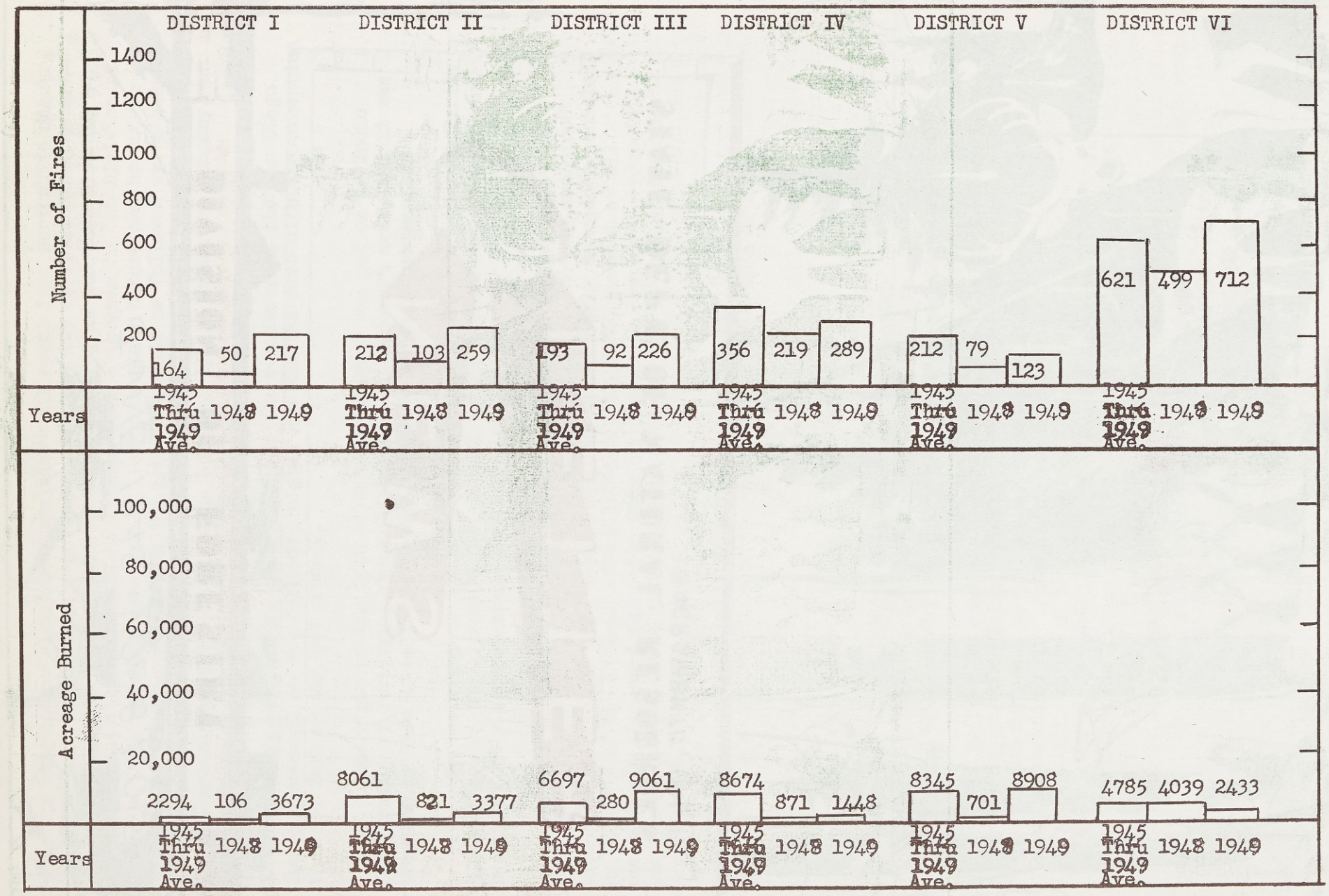
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
JUNE 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

May's hot weather continued into the first part of June bringing with it a large number of fires, two that reached considerable size. In many parts of the State temperatures hovered in the neighborhood of 100 degrees, humidities were exceptionally low. Weather men in various sections indicated it was the hottest June in more than 25 years. Few areas were free from fire outbreaks, the majority of which were caused through man's inadvertence or carelesness. 2500 acres of grass and grain were destroyed on June 2 in Merced County, 6500 acres of grass and brush on June 3 in Amador and Calaveras Counties, 1900 acres burned over near Cienega Valley in San Benito County on June 5, and more than 3500 acres near Alamo Canyon in San Luis Obispo County on the same date. During the first ten days at least five other fires reached 500 acres or more in size, two being in San Diego County, one in Mendocino County, one in Santa Clara County, and one in Monterey County. The extremely hazardous fire weather subsided about the 10th of the month. There were no serious outbreaks during the remainder of the month although occurrence was high. Cumulative totals from January 1 show that 1,826 fires were experienced this year compared to a total of 1,042 for the same period of 1948. Acreage burned was also in excess of last year there being 28,900 acres scorched this year as against 6,800 last year. These figures apply only to lands under the protection of the Division of Forestry. In noting the increase in fire occurrence and acreage burned, it is well to remember that weather conditions during May and June of this year have certainly been conducive to the outbreak of fires. A large percentage of the fire occurrence and acreage burned have been recorded during these two months. Last year's fire weather conditions were not critical until the end of June and the first part of July.

Since the Legislature approved the budget during the last days of the Session, our Operations and Fire Control Sections have been extremely busy preparing operational budget and Blue Book crew allotment for distribution to the field. This has been accomplished and at the present time districts are advised of finances available for the coming year. The Legislature has also given approval to the cooperative program of the Department of Corrections with this Division. Hard pressed for adequate facilities and room for inmates, the Adult Authority requested some time ago that new forestry work camps be established to relieve a part of the pressure. Final paper work has been completed this month which should enable this Division to initiate construction on the six new adult forestry work camps, one to be established in each of our administrative districts. Equipment for the camps, now in the process of being ordered, include 18 stake side trucks, 6 tractors, 6 dump trucks, 6 pickups and 2 sedans.

The State Metal Fabricators, Inc. of Salinas has been awarded the contract for 20 400-gallon capacity Reo tank trucks, 10 200-gallon capacity crew trucks, and 12 - 160 gallon capacity four-wheel drive crew trucks. Mr. P. E. Van Pelt of Oakdale was low bidder and obtained the contract for the construction of 9 pickup pumpers. Also successful this month was the Valley Tractor and Equipment Company who was awarded the purchase order for 9 International TD-18 tractors with angledozers. The Weaver Tractor Company will sell the Division 2 D-7 caterpillar tractors with tilt dozers. During the month contracts were let for 100th Fiscal Year radio equipment to the following companies:

| | |
|---|---|
| Link Corporation: | 127 mobile units |
| | 1 land station |
| Motorola Corporation: | 138 Handie Talkie |

Delivery of this equipment is expected by September 5. At the present time radio technicians from this Division and the Division of Communications of the Department of Finance are in the field striving to alleviate some of the operational difficulties of our present communications system.

Field activities during the month, in addition to the activation of camps, training of personnel newly employed, and fire duty, included concentrated efforts in the fields of fire prevention, range improvement, and forest practice administration. Hazard reduction work along roadsides, around dump grounds, and similar areas was in progress throughout the State as was the intensive educational drive to acquaint local people with the serious nature of the fire dangers this summer season.

Forest management activities included a large number of inspections of sawmills and woods operations and it was found in most instances that compliance with State law and the Forest Practice Rules had improved measurably from a year ago.

In District IV, the Central San Joaquin area, the District warehouse was moved to a better and more appropriate site which would permit more room for storage and more efficient handling of freight and material to the field.

In the Central Coast area, the Paso Robles Station in San Luis Obispo County, was made ready for occupancy and it is hoped that fire crew presently housed in a tent camp, can move to the new station by the middle of July. Ranger residence building at Hollister in San Benito County will shortly be ready for occupancy.

A meeting was also held in this district during the month with U. S. Forest Service, Santa Barbara County Fire Warden, Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, Soledad State Prison. Resulting from the meeting arrangements were made to obtain approximately 300 prisoners for fire suppression purposes in any location within this district. The prisoners will be trained in fire-fighting and three select groups will be trained to act as fire camp teams. It is hoped that these teams will be able to take over the complete messing problems of fire crews with a very minimum of supervision.

In District VI the Driver Safety Program started earlier this year and the Law Enforcement School have been completed. The information gained by employees from these training schedules should have marked effect on their efficiency.

The Fire Plan Revision Committee, composed of all district deputies, met in Fresno to hear a presentation by technicians and rangers of District IV with recommendations for proposed changes in the basic fire control plan.

## SWINGLER PROMOTED TO REGIONAL FORESTER REGION VII

It was announced last month that Bill Swingler, Assistant Regional Forester for Region V in charge of State and private forestry for the U.S. Forest Service, has been promoted to Regional Forester of Region VII, headquarters in Philadelphia. The State Division of Forestry joins with Bill's Forest Service and other friends to wish him the very best of luck.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### CALAVERAS COUNTY NEWS

Calaveras County, under the guidance of State Ranger Jim Fenlon, does many things and in a big way. Witness the "Hot Welcome" we got to the Fire Season, when on June 3, our seasonal initiation was really complete with 2 fires breaking out at once, one of them lasting for 3 days and covering over 3,000 acres. Considering all the newcomers and the process of organization in effect at the time, we did very well indeed. Needless to say that the new fellows were well broken in for the season. Of course Foreman Leo "Hopalong" Cassell went out with his galloping-rolling kitchen.

Calaveras County, always with the goal of being the best in the Division, at present has worked up the radio and telephone communications to a solid 10-2, after a stiff battle with nature and the elements. This was accomplished with the aid of the District Radio Technician Elsberry with the entire Ranger staff doing everything from pole climbing to wire-stringing, to complete the project in time to be 10-4 for the fire season. The difficulty on opening all of the spike camps on time has been met and they're running fully manned now. Calaveras has 6 of these outlying stations, from "Siberia" Copperopolis and "Last Outpost" Valley Springs to "Paradise Murphys". Headquarters camp at San Andreas is right up to snuff, with roses blooming; shiny painted buildings; green lawns and everything as neat as a pin, especially around our new Coco Cola machine. (Non-Requisition).

The very famous storied "Frog Jump" at Angels Camp, made so famous by Mark Twain, was treated to a swell display of Fire Prevention by the Calaveras CDF. The display, a model home patterned from the idea of Ranger Fenlon, was built to scale, even to the mail box; incinerator; roof shingles, and with real glass windows. Built by Assistant Ranger John Jackson, who put many hours into fashioning it. John attached strings to each hazard, then tied the other end of the string to a placard explaining the danger and the prevention measures to be taken. In charge of Fire Protection for the Frog Jump was Acting Assistant Ranger Harold "Woody" Woods.

Many new faces are to be found in Calaveras, and this year we have managed to snare the prize of Amador County; Associate Ranger Walt Mueller. Walt had been in charge of Amador County for many years. He has fast become as well liked and as popular in Calaveras as he was in Amador. Another newcomer Dispatcher Arthur "False Alarm" Jasso, formerly of the U. S. Forest Service, but more recently from his home in Los Angeles, is well pleased with his new job and if could just learn to say words like; Tuolumne, Copperopolis, Mokelumne Hill, and Schroebel on the radio without swallowing his tongue he'd be more pleased. From Placer County we've brought into our fold, Headquarters Foreman Layland Friberg, our most dashing "Double Clutcher". Handling the hard work are the FEO's Shirley Irvine and Georbe Burns, from Yuba and Orange Counties respectively. To complete the picture we have the new Foremen; Walter Bolster of San Bernardino; Bill Word of El Dorado; Harry Proctor of Amador; and Wayne Irwin of Orange.

Arthur Jasso
Forest Fire Dispatcher

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

District VI had everything under control over the "Fourth" holiday (that season of bursts, flares, and booms) and had no fires of any consequence to report. Douglas Glenn stood by the guns all weekend and found very little excitement. This all goes to prove that with our extensive campaign, the public is "Fire Prevention" conscious and is going all out to "KEEP CALIFORNIA GEEN AND GOLDEN."

But it is not only a forest fire that burns. For example, we have Pat and Toni who consorted with Old Sol during the "Fourth" weekend. It's fun while you're getting it, but oh the painful results.

That "Hollywoodian" man who walked into our office the other day was none other than Norman Harris, who in the company of Assistant Ranger Ulrey of San Bernardino County, was unceremoniously attacked in the eye by a bee while inspecting and taking pictures of some illegal acreage. Must have been a trained bee. The dark glasses covered a multitude of "skins."

The office is buzzing with activity - budget time and all the ramifications preparatory for the new fiscal year.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Progress on this county's fair exhibit at Del Mar is getting along rapidly. The entemological display mentioned in last news item is about completed. It is felt that the manner in which this display will be presented will be readily digested by the lay group level. That is, the large majority of people who usually glance at a statistical display and find no interest or time to consume it, the visual aid approach has been used and will be held at 15 year old level. Col. Fischer and Dr. Harbison of the San Diego Natural History Museum have given us the benefit of their experiences along this line, it having been their experience in making displays that the average citizen can more readily understand and appreciate displays held at a teen-age scale.

It is recognized by most educational and advertising groups that the person or persons who charge thru an exhibit merely glancing around then rushing on to the next one are the persons most needing a more thorough indoctrinization to what they saw or thought they saw. Since Fire Prevention and Progressive Conservation are what this Division has to sell to the public, this approach is being used also in our other features such as our display on San Diego County Forest Products.

Red Shank, (adenostoma spars, folium) its uses and values. In this one item it has been proven that this root has by far a superior quality to any briar root that Europe or Africa can offer. Also when it is in its green stage the root has the same heat units as Utah bituminous coal, without leaving a coke residue. The equivalent of coal for heating purposes contains 8.554 B.T.U.S. per lb. dry basis - Barr test. This test was conducted by the Clarkson Laboratories of San Diego and at San Diego State College Laboratories. It burns to a very fine ash, which incidentally has a very high tanic content. Samples of pipes from the many manufacturers will be on display, plus many other items which can be made from this root.

The San Diego rural high schools will have a large display of fire prevention and conservation posters in our booth. This was done thru the

medium of a contest with the 12 rural schools contributing two of their best posters from each school. Each entrant will receive an award of merit certificate with a grand award to be presented at the Fair's termination. The winner is to be judged by the public voting on the display as they enter the booth. The award is a 12" pedestal topped by a large gold eagle. A Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry emblem will also be attached to the name plate. The winner's name and school will be inscribed on the trophy.

One other item of interest will be on display. The caterpillar tractor people generously contributed models of equipment to be used in a mock fire line display and they have given us three large photos of equipment in action (1) one in logging, (1) one in fire line construction, and (1) one in road building; to be used as back drops for this fire line mock display. The photos are in Sepia and Kodachrome and are approximately 30" x 60" in size.

With such generous help on the part of the people mentioned, we should have a very good reception by the public at our booth this year. Assistant Forest Ranger Mike Schori has also prepared a large fire occurrence map for San Diego County 1948. It is very impressive and should mean much to an interested public.

Bill Seehorn
Forest Firefighter Foreman

RAINBOW C.A.A. CAMP

Highlight of our month's activity was our call to Los Angeles County to assist in the approximately 2,000 acre fire which swept through the Whittier-Puente Hills on June 22. The Rainbow Crew number one gave a good account of themselves under the able leadership of Foreman Bill Haley. Praise for their good work was given by several L.A. County Forestry men. This is the first time since Rainbow was opened that a crew has gone into L. A. County. Let's hope our field of activity doesn't enlarge each year, however, if it does, we're ready, willing and able to roll anywhere.

C. A. Borwn
Project Supervisor

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The fire prevention program for San Bernardino County was greatly accelerated during the month of June with ten miles of firebreak constructed by dozer. This work was done on the south side of Summit Valley road. We are very pleased that this work has been completed as this area is a very critical fire area.

Approximately twenty miles of roadside burning was completed. This work consisted of burning out the intervening strip between the disk line and highways.

Ten miles of railroad right-of-way were burned in cooperation with the Santa Fe Railroad; the railroad company employing one crew of six men, the State furnishing one firetruck.

Approximately 400 high fire hazard signs have been posted in the County with an additional 400 to be posted.

Assistant Ranger Art Balsom attended the meeting with the U. S. Soil Conservation Department, visiting several ranches and inspecting the pasture, grass, etc. that was being tried by the Department to determine the effect of reseeding on burned over areas, denuded areas by soil erosion, and will participate in a reinspection at some future date.

Our patrolmen have been installed in Morongo Valley and almost immediately participated in suppressing a six acre brush fire.

Men and equipment responded to a three-hundred acre fire in the U.S. Forest Service area near Big Bear.

Continued development and supervision of fire training in cooperation with the County as applied to fire districts and volunteer fire department. Numerous training sessions were conducted with foreman and Assistant Rangers acting as instructors. The training program is being carried on with the general outlines as set up by the State Fire Training, the National Fire Protection Association, and the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

ORANGE COUNTY

Driver's Safety School, attended by all personnel of Orange County, was held on June 2 and 3 ... Law Enforcement School was attended by Drivers, Equipment Operators, Foremen, and Assistant Rangers on June 15 ... Training for new personnel has continued ... Fire season has started off with a bang in Zone 3 there have been as many as eleven fires in one day caused by families in the sub-divided area, burning without permits and not watching the fires. Ten persons have been cited in court and fined $25.00 each ... Assistant Ranger Frank Weatherford transferred to San Luis Obispo County on June 10 ... James Havens is now a Driver in San Diego County ... We hope that Driver George Burns is happy in Calaveras County... Foreman Bill Alderson is now the proud father of a six pound son ... Equipment Operator Andy Gengler is willing to tell anyone who'll listen about his operation ... Driver Fred Schubert is back on the job after breaking his wrist ... Driver Herman Gedney claimed his bride in Long Beach on June 24.

Ida M. Rolls
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

FROM DISTRICT IV

Associate Ranger Raymond R. Higgins is noted for his easy-going disposition, but it has been recently demonstrated Ray can be pushed just so far and no further.

It seems that Ray had just left Fresno Headquarters where he had a resplendent sign attached to both sides of his pickup reading "State Fire Patrol" when suddenly a car passed him going in the same direction and the

passenger almost feel out of the car reading Higgins' fire prevention signs. The man's behavior reaffirmed Higgins' faith in the fire prevention value of visual education when the same character nonchalantly leaned out of his car and flipped a lighted cigarette into the dry roadside grass.

Result—one chagrined Associate Ranger, one citation, one fine of $5.00 and a very well educated forest traveler.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

M9-1

JULY 1949 VOL 8 NO 7

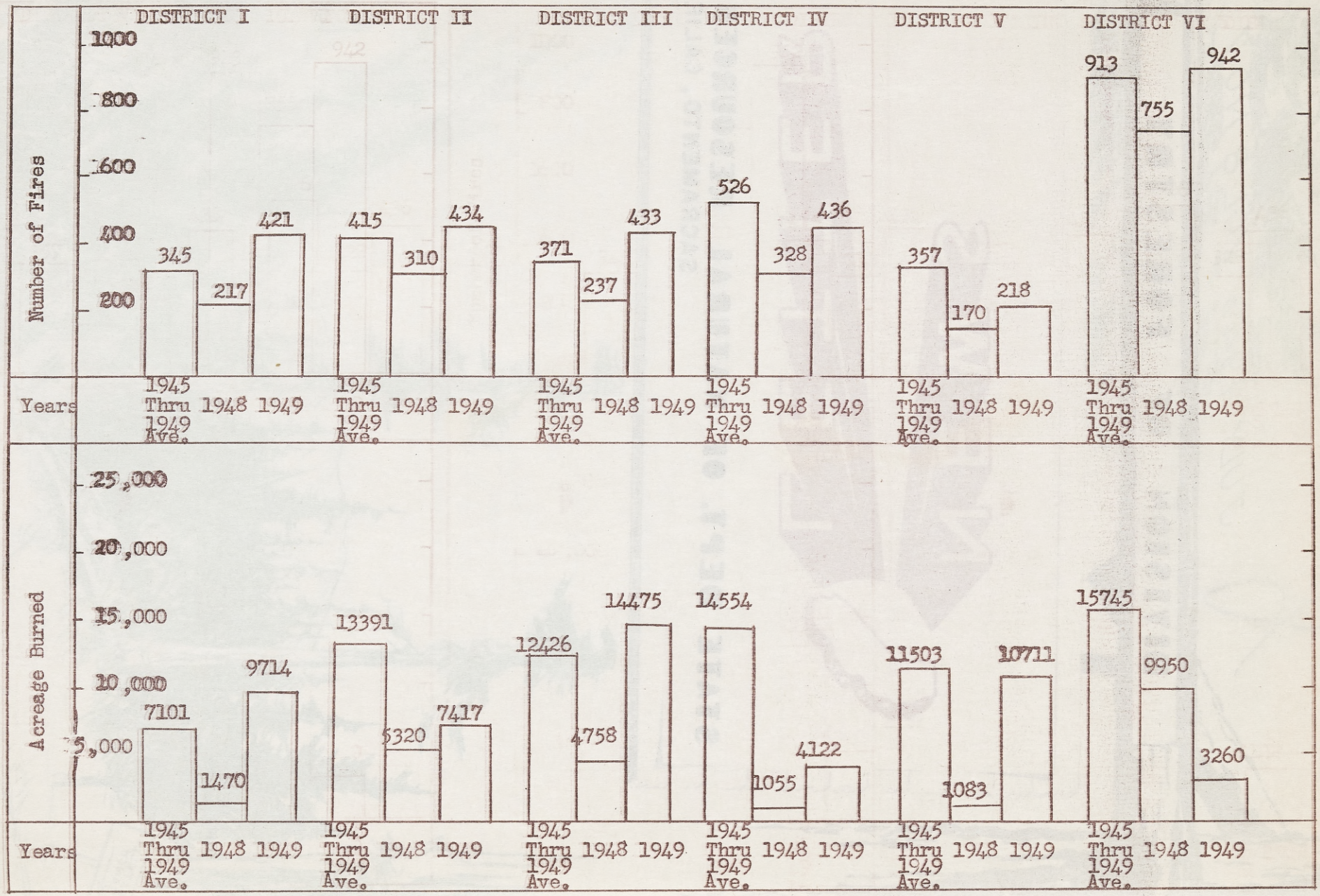
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
JULY 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

Following a relatively warm and dry Spring and extremely hot June weather, the month of July was classified by weather men as a normal or average July. The lack of Spring rain and the high early season temperatures have had their effect, however, on the vegetation in all parts of the State. Field men of this Division have indicated that vegetation is as dry now as it usually is by mid September. Fire incidence throughout the State during the month continued at a high level indicating intense public use of valley, foothill, and mountain areas and a high inflammability potential of vegetative covering.

The cumulative January 1 - July 31 fire incidence record Statewide on lands protected by this Division showed more than 800 fires in excess of a similar period in 1948. This is not a fair comparison, however, for it will be recalled that the first part of the 1948 fire season was relatively mild. When the cumulative fire occurrence figures for the period January 1 - July 31 of the years 1945 to 1948 are averaged, however, and compared with 1949 figures, it is encouraging to note this year's total to date is less. 2,884 fires were recorded through July 31, 1949, in comparison to 2,017 for a similar period in 1948 and 2,927 as the average number for the period 1945-48 through July 31. 49,699 acres have been blackened by fire this year on lands protected by the Division in comparison to 23,636 during 1948. The average number of acres burned during the period 1945-48 through July 31 is recorded at 74,720.

Several large fires burned in various parts of the State during the month but, perhaps, the greatest activity in the Northern California section was experienced on the last week end of July when during a freak storm more than 117 lightning-caused fires started in Division responsibility areas throughout Districts V, IV, III, and II. The highest concentration was in District III, the Mother Lode Area, where 79 fires were recorded on July 30. The largest of this great number of fires reached only 27 acres in size before being controlled. Fire crews were extremely busy during this critical period and radio communication played a major role in effecting quick control through the manipulation of men and equipment from one area to another. The only area of the State this month to escape from any large fires was the Southern California section. During the earlier part of the month Monterey County suffered a 650 acre burn near Soledad, 1000 acres burned over in Lassen County near Montgomery Springs, and near Vacaville in Solano County approximately 2000 acres of brush and grass were blackened. From July 17 through the end of the month weather conditions were extremely critical in the North Coast region and several fires were recorded, one on the 17th burning 1200 acres of timber in Humboldt County near Bryce, another in the same county on the 20th near Tule Creek and again a 260 acre timber fire near North Fork on the 21st. The Central Sierra Nevadas also were hit during this period with a 4000 acre fire in Calaveras County near Hogan Dam and one in Mariposa County of 650 acres near Butler Mountain.

Preparations continued this month for the installation of six adult prison work camps recently authorized by legislative action. One camp of approximately 50 men is to be located in each of the six Administrative Districts and, with the exception of District III, the Mother Lode District, all sites for the camps have been established

and access roads, if not already in evidence, started or completed. Plans for permanent camp structures and facilities are being rushed through the Department of Architecture and this Division is contemplating the ordering of construction materials for the camps just as asson as the plans have been released. Initially tent camps will be established on the areas and manned by prison work crews who will initiate construction work. It is hoped that by the 10th or 15th of September initial construction can start on most of the camps. These prison camps will not replace firefighting forces in the areas involved but in some cases, because of the camp location, it will be possible, when the camps are operating, to reduce the crew size of adjacent fire suppression control stations. This will effect at most some four fire suppression crew stations. The prison crews will be used during the summer months as supplemental manpower for fire control. The crews will undoubtedly be a great service in this capacity as well as in other forestry work projects.

The Department of Finance has informed the Division this month that at least seven fire control station sites throughout the State have been purchased and that the purchase of three others will be completed within sixty days. The sites newly purchased include Cottonwood Pass Station, Kings County; El Touro, Orange County; Forest Hill, Placer County; Fountain Springs, Tulare County; Healdsburg and Occidental, Sonoma County; Hornbrook in Siskiyou County; Parkfield in Monterey County; Temecula in Riverside County; and an office building site for District I headquarters in Sonoma County. Other site purchases now before the Property Acquisition Board of the Department of Finance include Altaville Fire Control Station in Calaveras County, Cloverdale, Sonoma County; Covelo, Mendocino County; La Panza, San Luis Obispo County; Pt. Arena, Mendocino County; and Brooks in Napa County. The Division, of course, has great interest in these acquisitions for just as soon as purchases have been made and properties are State-owned, construction work with funds set up in the present budget may be commenced.

A consolidation of construction progress under the postwar program shows that during the last two years this Division has constructed nine lookout towers, six ranger residences, four ranger offices, three equipment buildings, three CYA shop buildings, and one district warehouse building. Division employees have been active on all of these construction projects although in many cases artisan labor was utilized. Now approved by the Public Works Board for construction are six fire control stations, two ranger headquarters complete including office, residence, warehouse, etc, two warehouses, one dispatcher's residence, two equipment buildings, and one barracks. Activity in the field in this program is somewhat slow at the present time because of the intense nature of the summer fire season.

Delivered this month for fire suppression work were two D7 Caterpillar tractors from the Weaver Tractor Company and 2 TD 18 tractors from the Valley Tractor and Equipment Company. The remaining 7 TD 18 tractors are to be delivered to the Division by the 15th of August. There have been no deliveries to date of fire tank trucks or crew trucks that are to be purchased with funds allocated under the 100th Fiscal Year Budget.

HANNUM COMMENDS DIVISION EFFICIENCY DURING LIGHTNING FIRE OUTBREAK

This letter, dated August 3, was received by State Forester

Nelson from the office of the Director of Natural Resources:

"It has come to the attention of the Director that 117 lightning fires were caused by the storm which passed over the State the last day of July on areas of State responsibility for fire protection. All fires were promptly extinguished with very minor loss. Though the use of radio in directing and controlling the movement of crews was a major contribution to the results accomplished, the morale and efficiency of the fire fighting crews undoubtedly was mainly responsible for the remarkable end result.

The Director wishes to extend to all district deputies, dispatchers, rangers and fire fighters, engaged in this major effort his sincere appreciation and commendation for work so outstandingly performed. He is convinced that the fire fighting forces in other parts of the State have the determination, can and will produce similar results when and if the occasion demands.

It is my desire that this letter of commendation be distributed to and posted at all suppression crew stations, ranger stations and other field headquarters, so that all may realize that their services are appreciated and that, as Governor Warren has expressed to the Director, they may fully maintain the enviable record established in the past year or two."

WOODBRIDGE METCALF HOSPITALIZED

We would like to take this opportunity to advise readers that Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester, has had an operation at the University of California Hospital in San Francisco which will require that he be confined to the hospital and his home for a considerable length of time. All of us realize that this confinement for Woody who has been so active in Forestry matters in California will be nerve-racking at its best. I am sure many of you will want to drop Woody a card or a personal letter from time to time, knowing that he would take time out if any of us were in the same predicament. Any one in San Francisco can visit him. If that is not possible he has a private telephone which is Montrose 4-3600, local 175. He is in Room 311. So, anyone in the city surely can go to see him or call him. Those of us who probably will not be around the bay area can write him at the University of California Hospital, San Francisco, Room 311.

RADIO STATION KNBC AGAIN PRODUCES "FORESTS AFLAME"

"Forests Aflame", a fire prevention radio program initiated last year by Station KNBC, San Francisco, is to be produced again this year. The first program started on Friday night, August 5 and will continue every Friday night through September 23 on KNBC. The program may be heard at 10:15 p.m. It will be necessary to check radio logs in other areas to find the time of the program. It will be broadcast over KFSD San Diego, KFI Los Angeles, KIST Santa Barbara, KERO Bakersfield, KMJ Fresno, KCRA Sacramento, and KOH Reno, Nevada.

Technical assistance for the program is provided by the Regional Office of the U. S. Forest Service. The program itself is designed and produced by Radio Station KNBC.

WHITE PINE BLISTER RUST IN CALIFORNIA

The blister rust control program once more occupies the center of the stage in California's sugar pine belt with the manning of 27 blister rust eradication camps in the Sierras. The Division of Forestry is again interested in this conservation measure by reason of the State's contribution of $168,000 for the fiscal year 1949-1950 toward control work. This sum has been matched by an equal amount of federal funds and the total amount is expended in control work on State and private lands. California's contribution toward this work has played a key role in determining the scope of the cooperative blister rust control project because of the Federal Government's policy of allocating funds only in an amount equal to the sum contributed by State and private agencies.

In addition to the above, California is contributing the services of two Youth Authority camps. One is located at Whitmore on the Lassen National Forest and the other is at Dewdrop on the Eldorado National Forest. About 50 boys in these camps are engaged in eradicating the host plants, currant and gooseberry bushes.

Blister rust is a plant parasite (fungous disease) that attacks the white or five-needled pines. It spreads on alternate host plants, from pine to current and gooseberry bush, then back to pine. The disease cannot spread from pine to pine directly but must undergo a stage of its life cycle on the leaves of current and gooseberry bushes. Eradication of these host plants definitely stops the spread of the rust to the sugar pines and leaves them immune from attack from that particular enemy wherever the protection work is done.

In California the trees classed as white pines are the sugar pine, western white pine, limber pine, foxtail pine, and bristlecone pine. Of these, sugar pine alone has high commercial value. The estimated value of the present stand of this specie is well over $100,000,000 in this state alone. Sugar pine is considered one of the real money-makers in California's vast lumber industry.

White pine blister rust entered California first in 1931, from infection centers in the north. By 1949 the rust had established itself at numerous places in northern California and in the Sierra Nevada it had reached a point 240 miles south of the Oregon line. With infection centers present at several points in the forests of the Sierra Nevada, the rust is now in a position to cause serious damage to our most valuable commercial stands of sugar pine.

This means that in addition to the hazards of fire and bark beetles, the commercial growing of sugar pine over large areas of its range in both California and Oregon must also face the threat of a persistently spreading plant disease. Considerable progress has already been made toward saving as much of the sugar pine as possible. A total of 629,582 acres of choice pine on State and privately owned lands have been set aside in areas designated for protection. Of this amount, 287,252 acres have already been given the initial protective treatment and additional acres will be added this year. All work is done in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture who is charged with the responsibility of leadership, coordination, and

technical direction of all control work. State and private agencies participate in this project and cooperate in the planning of the field program.

J. C. Crowell
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Today a former Forest Firefighter dropped into the Sacramento office with the following story:

It seems that he was hired recently and went to a training school for four days, after which he worked for several days and was laid off as being unable to do the work. Under the circumstances he wished to return his salary checks to the Division of Forestry to be used in forestry work. Being unable to persuade him that his time was worth money and that he was entitled to his pay, Mr. Aronstein of the Accounting Office was called in. He accepted the checks which are to be placed in a Trust Fund to be used for forestry purposes.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Effective August 1 L.T. (Pete) Petersen is appointed Deputy State Forester in charge of C.D.C. prison program and the present forestry CYA work camp set up. Lou Moran, Ranger, Nevada County, goes to District II as Assistant Deputy and Associate Ranger Don Knowlton, formerly of District IV Headquarters moves to Nevada County as Ranger. Associate Ranger Al Filippini now in Madera County moved to District IV to replace Knowlton and Assistant Ranger Bob Moran comes from San Bernardino County to replace Filippini in Madera County. Harold Rolland has been promoted from Assistant Ranger in District II to Work Project Supervisor heading up the CDC camp in District II. Neil Edmonds went from Associate Ranger in District II Headquarters to Work Project Supervisor, CDC Camp in District II. Paul L. Turner of Alameda will be appointed Work Project Supervisor, CDC Camp in District III. Ranger Charles W. Wilcher of District V was transferred as Work Project Supervisor, CDC Camp in District V. The position of Work Project Supervisor for the CDC Camp in District VI is still to be filled.

Gunnar Forssbeck, Assistant Civil Engineer, has recently been transferred back to the Sacramento office to act as assistant to Forestry Engineer Charlie Ennis.

NEWS FROM AMADOR COUNTY

If Amador County has not been heard from in the News Letter for the last couple of months it is because we have been busy and not because we don't like to contribute.

In spite of our fire prevention work, Lady Luck and Mother Nature seem to be giving us a bad time in that our fire occurrence is about double the figure of last year at this time. The recent

lightning storm gave us six fires in one afternoon. We still don't know how it happened but the biggest fire only reached 1½ acres thanks to everyone concerned, especially the men from the woods working for the Winton Lumber Company and the C.Y.A. boys.

Speaking of C.Y.A. boys and other folks who are inclined to get sleepy on the fire line in the early hours of a cold morning, we believe we have the solution. At least we can get some very abrupt and unpredictable action from these sleepers. The secret is to own an overfed pointer dog. For that matter most any old dog will turn the trick as long as he has enough energy to get up a good sweat. The owner of the dog then starts down the fire line with the dog, the dog rushing around out in front. We guarantee that no matter how sound a sleeper your man has been when he hears the supposed wild animal come rushing and panting out of the brush he won't do much sleeping for the rest of the night. This works particularly well on colored folks. It is really worth a try. We stumbled onto this trick on a recent fire. In the course of a couple of miles of fire line everyone was thoroughly on the alert and according to the stories that were circulating for the next few days, the woods in the vicinity of the fire where the incident occurred are sure full of bears, mountain lions, and a lot of other animals some of which we have never been able to identify. We don't claim that any more work was actually accomplished, but we sure put them on the alert and it is always good for a laugh.

Everyone in Amador is busy with station improvement projects while not engaged in actual fire suppression work. All three of our stations are in the process of having landscape work completed and that always keeps everything dusty and torn up.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

BALLARD TO ASSISTANT RANGER

Deputy State Forester C. E. Metcalf reports the appointment of Richard G. Ballard, Foreman in Madera County, as Assistant Ranger in Fresno County. Ballard has served with the Division of Forestry as a truck driver and foreman in Madera County since 1946. Ballard will be assigned to the Coalinga district with Associate Ranger Nicholson to aid in the administration of forestry and fire problems in that area. Personnel in District IV wish Dick the best of luck in his new job.

"SHOW ME TRIP" PRODUCTIVE

On Wednesday, June 29, 1949, Associate Ranger Norman F. Nicholson, in company of John McCollum of the Coalinga Record and Floyd Howe of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce, made an excursion to the Smith Mountain Lookout on the Fresno-Monterey County Line.

Both of these men had lived here most of their lives, but neither had ever been in the area that was covered on this trip. The sojourn started at 5:00 in the morning with breakfast at the Coalinga Forestry Station, at 5:20 we were on the way, and we arrived at Smith Mountain at 6:30 a.m.—in time to have coffee with Forest Fire Lookout Paul Beggs of Monterey County who is in charge of this lookout.

The view from this lookout is magnificent as quite an extensive part of the San Joaquin Valley and a large area of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties can be seen from this spot. They were shown the operation of the lookout, how this lookout cooperates with both Fresno and Monterey Counties in reporting a fire, and the areas of initial attack.

From Smith Mountain we crossed through Hot Springs Bear Canyon to the Joaquin Murietta Suppression Station where everyone refueled on cool water. This trip gave a much clearer picture of what the Division is doing both locally and in the State as a whole.

It is felt that a better understanding of our problems and a furthering of our fire prevention campaign was made on this trip, along with some good contacts with local civic and business leaders.

N. F. Nicholson
Associate Ranger

"WHEN DOG BITES"?

The District IV office, after a careful check of all known authorities on the human anatomy, sent the following Compensation Insurance Fund Report back to Associate Ranger Alvin Filippini for clarification. Quote. "Left fire; went to ranch house to use phone. Was leaving house when dog bit me on front porch". End of quote. The District Office's only consolation in their lack of knowledge of the human anatomy is that they are positive that Alvin can sit down on his back porch and write his report.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

MARIPOSA CITIZENS PRAISE DIVISION CREWS

We are quoting below a letter recently received from the Mariposa Lions Club.

"The Mariposa Lions Club wishes you to know that we and the town of Mariposa are deeply indebted to your subordinate crews at the Mariposa County Headquarters in Mariposa, California.

"We can hardly express our gratitude adequately when we think of the holocaust which might have been forthcoming had not the fire been put under immediate control by the StateFire Suppression crews stationed nearby. No doubt you have received reports of the recent Trabucco Store Fire in the 'downtown' section of Mariposa, the fire to which we are referring.

"The Lions Club wishes to commend you and your subordinates on an excellent job 'well done'. Again, thanks."

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

## AERIAL DETECTION PROVING ADVANTAGEOUS IN FRESNO COUNTY

Detection coverage on the west side of Fresno County has caused considerable difficulty in the past because of several factors. Because of roads, rights-of-way, topography and fire history, it was decided this year to make use of the airplane in obtaining detection service. Starting the first of July, the state contracted with the Coalinga Air Service to furnish detection in western Fresno and Kings County and at the same time provide coverage on adjacent areas in Monterey and San Benito Counties.

The regular patrol followed by Mr. MacCollom pilot with the Coalinga Air Service consists of an hours flight once a day in the middle of the afternoon or oftener if conditions require. His general flight pattern extends from Coalinga northerly to about the San Benito County line, then westerly over Spanish Lake and southerly along the main ridge across the Kings County line to Castle Mountain, thence returning to the airport. The pilot reports that a zig-zag course is necessitated both for good observation and because of local air currents. Generally he flies about at an altitude of 6000'.

While air patrol in this area is still in the experimental stage, we can see a tremendous advantage to it and hope that it becomes a permanent part of our setup. Our experience in the first month of this plane service offers some encouragement in a partial solution of our protection problems in this area.

Norman F. Nicholson
Associate State Forest Ranger

## BEN LOMOND CYA NURSERY

In line with Division policy to develop branch nurseries, a small pilot nursery has been established at the Ben Lomond CYA Camp in Santa Cruz County under the direction of Project Supervisor Ernie Pennington and technical assistance from Forest Advisor John Dowdakin.

Redwood, Douglas fir, and Monterey pine were planted in beds 55' x 4'. Each species occupies two of these beds and the seedlings are in top shape from the care given them by CYA wards.

Before seeding was undertaken late this Spring, the area was poisoned for rodent control under the supervision of Mr. Keyes of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Efforts of birds to nip the tender seedlings were stymied by fine-mesh sardine net spread high over the seed beds on posts.

These nets also serve as support for cut brush used as shade for the seedlings. This netting was generously donated by Monterey fishermen from their salvage stock piles.

Inquiries have been received from persons who are interested in the seedlings for next season's planting. However, it has not been fully established whether one year (1 - 0) seedling stock will fully establish itself in this area unless watered occasionally in the summer months.

It is hoped that pilot efforts will be successful and eventual recognition will be given the nursery as a Branch State Nursery, as considerable interest has been aroused in the CYA wards over the present small scale efforts which have proved successful to date.

John C. Dowdakin
Forest Advisor

BY MARGARET C. KRENKEL*

Let not a spark fall from a careless hand or dying camp-fire
Left alone to claim the evening breeze that fans it to and fro
Until it glows again in deadly flame.

It takes but a moment for headway, then goes on with a rush
Over dry grassy plain, then a hill-side covered by dead weeds
and brush.

At last it may reach to a forest where a growth of twining vine
Embraces the tall stately timber of spruce, redwood and sweet
scented pine.
With a long greedy tongue extended while reveling in wicked sin,
The fiery demon climbs its way from base to the highest limb.

Pitch covered cones are now falling, and these flaming torches
shed
Fire to widen the path of destruction where carpets of needles
are spread—
Some roll over embankments, to scatter their sparks on the way
Into the mass of the brush-wood, thus helping the great fire
prey.

Out from this glowing inferno comes the roar and cracking boom
Of falling giants now lying in the wake of the on-going doom.
Not alone does the perishing timber send forth a pitiful moan—
The song-bird and beasts of the forest are trapped by the blaze
in their home.

After weary days of hard battling come smoke begrimed heroes
who won
Victory over mad-cap flames, tho' not before damage was done.
Where once stood a beautiful forest of towering and healthy
trees,
Black forms with bare arms extended now appeal to the soft
cooling breeze.

This forest long tended by nature, taking hundreds of years
to grow,
Has been ruined and left scarred for ages, by the woodstands
deadly foe.
And out from the smoldering remnants comes the spirit of
despair,
Pointing out the crime and the error of the one who laid it
bare.

*Mrs. Krenkel is the mother of Foreman Hal Krenkel who is now stationed in Monterey County.

DISTRICT VI REPORTS

The Forest Fire Prevention Program of Southern California is gaining momentum every day. There is no doubt but that this year will see the greatest concentrated fire prevention activities ever experienced here. This is attributed to the cooperation received from the general public and their recognition of a personal responsibility in helping prevent forest fires.

One of the specific contributions that is being looked to with interest because of its possibilities for expansion is the cooperation received from the Harris Company, San Bernardino, in which they have ordered a two and one half months' supply of 1½" gummed tape carrying a fire prevention message; this to be used on their paciages. In addition to this they are using some 40,000 gummed stickers for packaging material. Such cooperation is indeed commendable.

The Kiwanis Fire Prevention program, though spotty, is beginning to show results. One Club is undertaking the distribution of some 60,000 pieces of fire prevention material. Many fire prevention aids are beginning to appear throughout our whole area.

The radio stations' cooperation with their on-the-hour fire prevention plugs have been most outstanding, and Fox West Coast Theaters, Inc. have increased their fire prevention shorts to 30 seconds, which really gets the message over in the theatres.

Gene Bertsch and Jack Burke are doing some fishing these weekends. We are still awaiting the "tale" of the fish that got away.

With a background of "Overseas' experience, Dorothea Leland has joined our Headquarters' staff in the newly created position of Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk for Raleigh Taylor, Fire Prevention Supervisor.

Norman Harris, Fire Prevention Officer, was the lucky winner of the 10" screen table model Television Set in the drawing held by Orange Forestry Club Benevolent Fund.

The following letter from Ernest McCook, President of the National Orange Show was received by W. W. Skinner, Ranger of San Bernardino County and Truman Holland, Ranger of Riverside County for their fine cooperation in the Orange Show fire:

"Officers and Directors of the National Orange Show desire to express to you and your forces their sincere appreciation of your services at the burning of the main exhibit structure July 16, 1949.

"It was an inspiring example of public service, men working against overwhelming odds and hazards through long tedious hours — magnificent cooperation in a task for which you and your organization are efficiently trained. That the structure could not be saved was due entirely to the fact that it was not discovered until it was ablaze virtually from end to end. We are particularly appreciative of the fact that other structures of the National Orange Show were saved and that the fire was prevented from spreading to contiguous

residential areas.

"Yours was a job most capably executed, one which effectively demonstrated to the public which you serve that our fire fighting agencies reassure us of protection."

Truman Holland also received from Burr Ban Housen, Mayor of Hemet, the following expression of appreciation for his participation in a major fire in the City of Hemet:

"Please accept this note as an expression of gratitude from the City of Hemet for the fine cooperation of your Department in combating the fire here on the morning of July 20, 1949.

"We know that the efforts of your Company were of great value in preventing a greater damage loss."

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

During the period of June 25 to July 25 we have had a total of 109 fires in the County of Riverside, the largest being 160 acres of brush and grass in the Beaumont area.

All roadside discing in the County has been completed for the year.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

A new double garage is being constructed at the Assistant Ranger residence at Yucaipa. This will be a definite improvement to the property.

Devore Fire Control Station was activated the first of the month.

San Bernardino Headquarters crews receive training instruction each Sunday afternoon by Instructor B. G. Shannon. Also, under the heading of training, the three San Bernardino Headquarters foremen have been training the Muscoy Fire District and other districts when needed.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

"As far as the State Division of Forestry was concerned, this Year's Fair was a much greater success than last year. Although our booth was still in the same lost corner of the Fair as last year, we had approximately 10,000 visitors and all showed a much greater interest in our work.

Our central theme, Conservation & Fire Prevention, effected by a rural high school conservation poster contest. An elimination contest was held before the Fair started and 13 of the hundred and one posters submitted were selected for display. The grand winner of the contest was chosen by the votes of the people visiting the booth. Since the people seemed to come in bunches and only one man was in the booth a good part of the time, we were only able to get ballots

into the hands of 5,395 people visiting the booth. A great deal of public interest was shown in the contest and the average voter took about 15 minutes to make his choice. Only through the intervention of the attendant were a few serious family arguments avoided. All 13 contestants received Certificates of Merit and the grand winner, Mrs. Louise Meeks, a student at Sweetwater High School, received a fine trophy, consisting of a golden eagle mounted on a 12" mahogany stand and bearing a suitably engraved gold plate.

The display of the work of the beetles in the Julian Cuyamaca Insect Zone filled one corner of our booth. This display was greatly improved by some fine colored illustrations by Patrolman Bill Seehorn, the loan of a display by Colonel Fisher at the Natural History Museum and the loan of pictures and a Riker mount on Western Pine Beetles from the Forest Insect Laboratory at the University of California.

The model of Mt. Woodson's Lookout tower drew a lot of interest and many a parent discussed fire prevention while waiting for Junior to walk his fingers up the 84 stairs.

The Osborne Fire Finder allowed several ex-artillery men to impress their wives or "dates", as well as acquaint the public with our method of spotting fires.

One map, showing structural fires and another, showing all fires from 1944 to 1948, as well as CDF stations and lookouts helped to completely fill our rear wall.

A model of a fire, with a burned house and a tractor cutting trail caused much favorable comment, as well as an extra bit of exercise for the attendant when some visiting junior became too impressed with the scale model of the dozer or the burned house and would proceed to trot off with it to "show it to Mommie".

Valuable assistance was given by the crews of Del Mar and Kearney Mesa in building and tearing down the display and in providing a couple of men to help out during our peak loads.

Bill Seehorn's signs and labels gave our display the professional touch which gave an added polish to the booth. General odd bits of carpentry work needed was very ably handled by Foreman Nick Phister.

Hat's off to Bob DeBurn, Forestry Equipment Operator, San Diego County. From a large group of contestants, Bob wound up in the finals in the "Truck Rodeo" at the San Diego County Fair. In the finals Bob handled the big truck and trailer job with expertness that placed him in second place and second money. Quite an achievement. Inasmuch as contestants came from far and wide, the boys had to put the big trucks over an obstacle course with the utmost of precision driving. Bob had spent the two previous days herding a dozer on the San Ignacio fire. Bob thinks he'll settle for nothing less than first place next year. We think so too. Any bets?

RAINBOW C.A.A. CAMP

The highlight of our month was addition of one Foreman and two Truck Drivers; one is to replace Driver Rowland who transferred and the other Driver and Foreman are to supplement our personnel during the summer months. We welcome into our fold Foreman John Peters, and Drivers Joe Smith and Elmer Graham.

The spirit is high and the inmates are anxious to pit their fire fighting ability against Camp Minnewawa. The word going around Is "Let's beat Minne."

James K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division Personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

---

DeWitt Nelson — State Forester
William H. Fairbank — Editor
Frances Skewes — Asst. Editor
Cover by Fred Gordon — Delineator

AUGUST 1949 VOL 8 NO 8

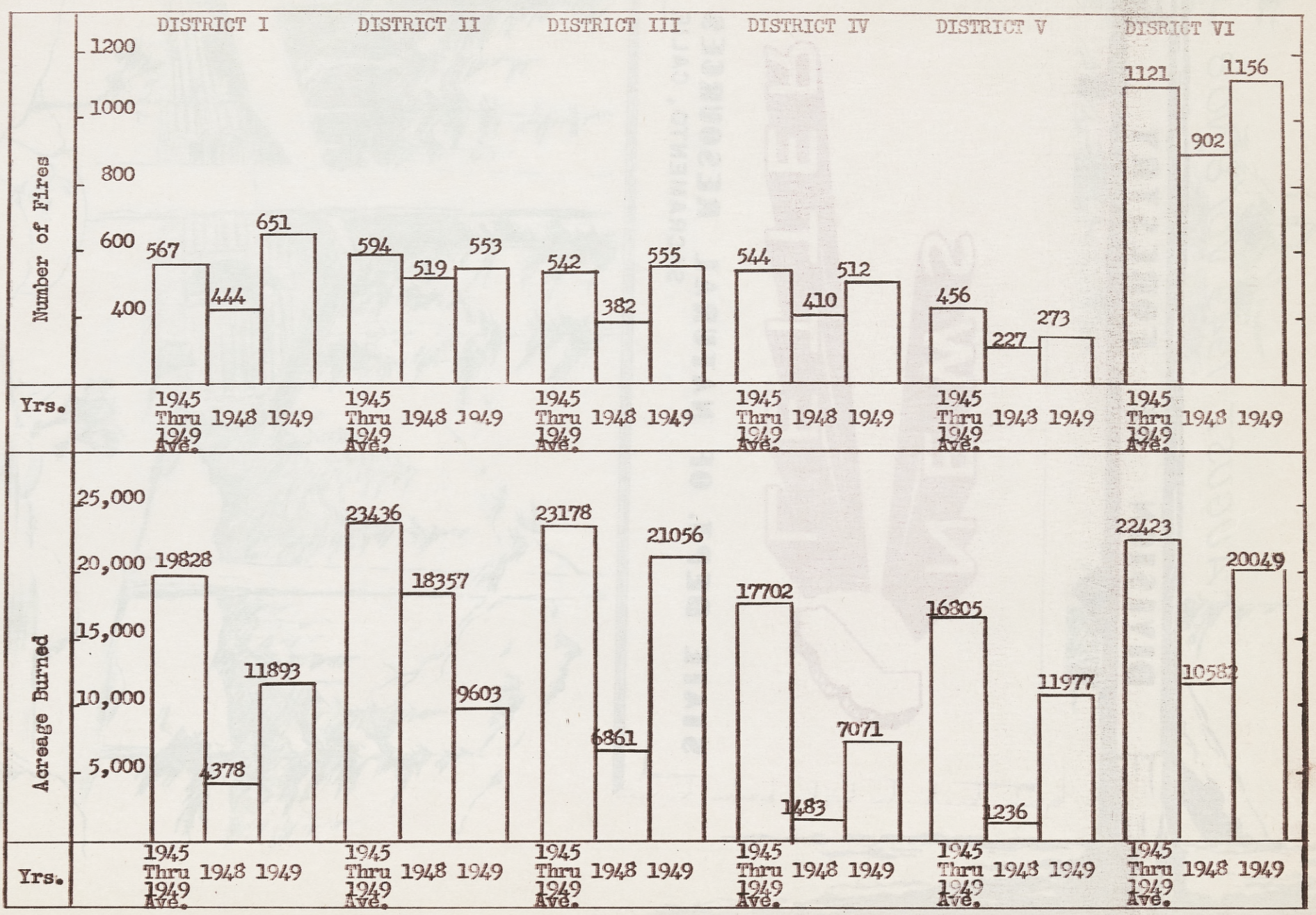
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
AUGUST 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

It will be recalled that an unusual lightning storm occurring the last day of July ushered in what then seemed to be a potentially serious fire month. Although all fires started by the lightning storm were quickly suppressed, none reaching more than twenty-seven acres, burning conditions remained critical. August weather, however, did not follow its usual form and, with the exception of Southern California, there were few periods during the month when temperatures and humidities were at their extremes. Only one relatively large fire occurred in the Northern part of the State, this one being in Tuolumne County which burned 4,200 acres on the 20th. A 1000 acre fire was controlled in Butte County on the 4th, one of 500 acres in Lassen County on the 5th, and a 750 acre fire in San Luis Obispo on the 6th. 790 acres were scorched in Sonoma on the 18th and 1100 acres in Fresno County by a fire that started on the 19th. There were plenty of fire starts, however, in all parts of the State but, due to reasonably favorable climatic conditions and effective control action, losses were held below the five-year average. It turned hot during the last ten days of the month in Southern California and San Diego County experienced several large fires; one that scorched 2500 acres on the 20th of the month, one that reached 14,300 acres before being placed under control on the 27th, and a 550 acre fire that occurred and was suppressed on the 27th. Burning conditions were equally extreme in other Southern California counties but, fortunately, no fires reached major size. During this ten-day period protection personnel were hard pressed to meet the overall fire situation and some personnel had to be sent south from Northern California.

Comparative figures to date show a total of 3700 fires as against 2884 for the same period of 1948 and 3980 for the four-year average 1945-1948. Of the 3700 fires 166 were lightning caused. On thirty-one million acres of land protected by this Division but 81,600 have been blackened to date in comparison to 43,200 as of this date last year and an average of 133,800 acres for the period 1945 thru 1948 as of the end of August.

Throughout the Mother Lode as far north as Siskiyou County and in the North Coast area control range improvement fires were in evidence during August. Weather conditions were not conducive, however, in some areas to obtaining successful control burns. Assisting in this work this month were two special crews that were activated in early August as the result of legislation passed during the recent legislative session. Funds for the support of these two special crews became available on July 25 when Governor Warren signed the legislation into law. The crews, each consisting of a foreman, a truck driver, and six crew members were immediately activated, were equipped, trained and reported to their first "control burn" on August 6. One crew spent most of the month in District IV and were helpful in Tulare, Madera, and Fresno Counties. This crew was moved to District II on the 27th for work in Butte County but was back in District IV during the latter part of the month. The other crew worked in the North Coast area between August 9 and August 20. It was then sent to Siskiyou County for a three-day period and during the later days of the month was in Amador County on control burning work. The crew returned to the North Coast area at the end of the month. It was noticed this month that in those areas with many range improvement projects underway smoke conditions some times rendered lookout stations practically useless.

Despite the rather mild nature of August weather, forest officers from all parts of the State indicated that burning conditions could be extremely critical were the weather to change to that normally experienced during September. Fuel moisture content has been exceptionally low since mid July. A series of hot dry days will convert vegetative cover to a veritable tinderbox. The extremely high potential of fire danger led the Division to take additional steps during the latter part of the month to intensify its fire prevention work, both on a State-wide and local level. Forest administrative personnel stepped up fire patrols especially in the coastal area where the hunting season is in progress. This program will be extended to include the Sierra and northern regions when the deer season opens on the 16th of September in that area. At the local level Division personnel will continue to utilize all possible contacts with organized groups that are helpful in dissiminating fire prevention information during the critical September and October months. On a State-wide basis the State Forester has advised newspaper editors and radio station managers of the nature of the summer season and of the potential fire danger that is anticipated during the remainder of the fire season. All members of the California Fire Prevention Committee have been advised of the present situation and asked to continue their excellent prevention efforts. Special appeals were made to the organized sportsmen groups who are in the best position to do practical field fire prevention work during the hunting season.

Administrative personnel of the Division continued forest practice inspection work during the month and the Division's forest technicians were active in the field of forest advisory work. On August 27 the South Sierra Forest Practice Committee held an open meeting in Wilseyville after conducting a morning long field trip in parts of Calaveras and Amador Counties. Several large operating areas were observed and the Committee discussed ways and means of bettering compliance with the Forest Practice Rules. In Eureka on the 27th the Redwood Region operators of Northern Humboldt and Del Norte Counties met to discuss hazard reduction problems in that area. Risks are extremely evident in this part of the Redwood Region where heavy accumulations of logging debris have resulted after many years of intensive cutting. It is envisaged that operators in this region will take steps in the near future to provide supplementary fire protection patrol services.

Technicians from the Forest Insect Laboratory at Berkeley have indicated this month that there seems to be an insect outbreak in the Lake County area. It will be recalled that this county was recipient to unusually heavy winter snow falls that resulted in a large amount of tree breakage. This condition is conducive to insect attack. The Division anticipates insect control work in Lake County area this winter.

Work continues on the installation of six Department of Correction camps this month. Temporary facilities are nearly completed in all districts, there being one camp assigned to each district. Steel buildings for the permanent camps are on order. The Division will acquire 18 heavy duty stake trucks, six pickups, and six dump trucks for the C.D.C. camps. Six D 7 caterpillar tractors will also be purchased for use by the camps. Three stake trucks, one pickup, one dump truck, and one caterpillar tractor will be assigned at each prison camp.

NEWS FROM WOODY METCALF

We are happy to hear from Woody Metcalf and to know that he is out of the hospital and home again. Woody will be most happy to see any of the fellows if they are in his neighborhood. He lives at 1992 Yosemite Road, Berkeley.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR YUBA PERSONNEL

After encountering numerous delays, Yuba County takes great pleasure in announcing that they have at last emerged victorious and now occupy the new Headquarters....albeit the shortage of furniture. The transformation from the old to the new has been terrific, and, in spite of the long tenancy, there was not a single sentimental tear shed as the door of the old office was closed for the last time.

The new office at the corner of 12th and Sampson Streets in Marysville holds a very prominent location, and numerous comments have already been overheard as the traveler's gaze fell for the first time upon our conspicuous two-tone green color combination. We doubt if anyone will ever meet with any difficulty in locating this office.

The moving parade was placed underway by Mike on Saturday, August the 27th, when he moved his family, lock, stock, and barrel, into his new Ranger's residence. The office force followed suit on Tuesday and Wednesday. The delay in receipt of our new furniture makes us feel something like a nice fat turkey---we feel we are going to get it, but we don't know when. As soon as we have overcome the shortage of desks, chairs, etc., and have solved the problems of our "new fangled" switch board, and the case of the surplus stuffed deer heads, we'll be able to swing into smooth operation.

That holds especially true in light of the filling of a new Clerk-typist position recently voted in by the Yuba County Board of Supervisors. We wish to introduce to the Division Mrs. Patricia Crew, who gives evidence of rapidly becoming an important link in our local administrative pattern.

Sick call---Gorden Owens, Foreman at Smartville, was taken to Grass Valley Hospital on August 31st for removal of an acute appendix. He returned to his home on September 5th, and will be released by his Doctor for duty about October 5th. From all reports he is now in fine shape.

Assistant Ranger Al Munson has been transferred to Yuba County from Monterey County; that big smile and friendly personality have already won him many friends.

W. F. Brock
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM EL DORADO COUNTY

Mt. Danaher Station is beginning to look a little more like a forestry station these days what with most of the major construction

work over the half-way mark. Remodeling of the mess hall has been completed, and the new office will be ready for occupancy in another ten days or so. We will have a fairly good structural steel gang when the new tower is completed although there is quite a bit of wagering going on in the county as to whether the cab will be bolted in place before snow flies.

We wish to welcome Charles (Chuck) Toy to El Dorado County as Dispatcher. Chuck was formerly dispatcher for the Highway Patrol in San Bernardino County before transferring over to Forestry. Also new in El Corado County is Foreman Larry Richey of Redwood City, a recent graduate of the University of California.

M. S. Dixon
State Forest Ranger

AN IDEA FOR FIRE CAMP MANAGEMENT

One of the bug-aboos usually associated with running a fire camp has been, trying to keep track of the number of meals served and arriving at some accurate cost data. The Calaveras Camp setup, under the supervision of Camp Boss Dean Bennetts, on the Thompson Ranch Fire, instituted a new system (to us it was new) which seemed to work very well. The method was the idea of Associate Ranger Walter Mueller and consisted of crew leaders and individual overhead going to the timekeeper for a meal slip or check. This slip was a small blue-lined form giving the leader's name and crew name with number of meals to be served. The cooks were instructed to serve no meals without receiving one of these slips. This method served a dual purpose--it not only kept exact track of the number of fire meals but also had the advantage of forcing all crew leaders and other personnel to check in to the timekeeper (including Assistant Deputy Tomblin). Thus all crews had to remain as a unit with their leaders in order to be fed and it also gave the timekeeper an accurate count on who was available in camp at all times.

I feel this helped to minimize the confusion usually found about the fire camp. The resulting data showed our fire meals running well over a dollar and a quarter per meal served. This figure also includes the cost of lunches sent out on the fire line. This system has now been tried in two fire camps set up on major fires--the cost data is relatively the same for both fires. These figures should give us something to think about when analyzing our overall fire suppression costs.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

FAIR HIGHLIGHTS AMADOR NEWS

The highlight in Amador County for the month of August was the fair at Plymouth, the site of some of the former glories of the gold rush days. Assistant Ranger Bob Carey and crew did a nice job. The theme of the display was fire prevention as related to cleanup around a rural home. A model house and dooryard were used with signs pointing to possible fire hazards. The Winton Lumber Company of Martell loaned the Division a Scene-in-Action unit made by the Econolite Corporation of Los Angeles. This unit displays a forest fire with water

in a stream moving and the flames advancing. It is very realistic, especially when displayed from a dark corner. It carries the general theme of our fire prevention efforts. We had numerous inqueries from visitors to the booth as to where they could buy one of these units. They apparently want to doll up a fire place. Incidentally the Winton Lumber Company has bought half a dozen of these units at a cost of around twelve dollars each and have them placed in various public gathering places as part of their contribution to the overall fire prevention effort.

Amador County got off rather lucky this month as concerns wild fires. We only had twelve fires with a total of approximately 90 acres burned.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

"CUSS POT" PARTY

It was hot dogs, punch, cake, and all the party trimmings for everygody at the Mariposa Headquarters camp this last Sunday night as the boys celebrated in grand manner their annual "Cuss Pot Party". Replete with gorgeous girls from Mariposa, hot music from a phonograph, and muted overhead lighting, the station garage was amazingly converted (with the aid of corn meal on the deck) into one of the slickest dance halls in the district. The grease guns and fire fighting equipment adorning the walls of the garage, though furnishing a rather rugged background for the party, did little to dampen the spirits of everyone involved.

Perhaps the most novel phase of the party was the means by which the funds were raised for the shindig. Cussing, believe it or not, paid for the works.

It all started a couple of year ago, when George Barnhill, the foreman, got tired of hearing the colorful adjectives used in the messhall during the meal. Using a little "slychology" on the crew, he got them to agree to a "cuss pot" being placed on each table into which anybody using offensive language was to contribute. The loot thus raised was to go for ice cream for the crew. It worked like a charm. In fact, it worked too well. By the time the party night rolled around, there was almost twenty dollars in the "cuss pot", enough to finance a fair sized shindig. The first party went over in such a big way that the "cuss pot" has now become a permanent fixture on the tables, and the party an annual affair.

P.W. By some strange accident, the invitations sent to the neighboring camps all arrived the day after the party. Too bad! Too bad!

Armand Sargentini
Forest Firefighter-Mariposa County

LOOKOUT HAS RESERVE SEAT

Fred Fanger, the Lookout at Eagle Rock in the Santa Cruz Mountains, thinks he has the distinction of being the only Lookout in

the State with a free reserved seat at the movies.

With his field glasses he can enjoy the pictures from a three mile vantage point at the Drive In Theatre in Big Basin way.

His preference is a colored picture with Donald Duck or a good Western.

CITIZENS OF DE LUZ THANK DIVISION PERSONNEL

The following letter was sent to Division personnel and was signed by seventeen citizens of the community of De Luz:

"To the Fire Crews on the De Luz Fire:

"The citizens of the community of De Luz wish to express their deep gratitude to the men on the fire crews for working so courageously to save homes and lives in the recent terrible fire. Many instances have been related to especially fine things the boys did.

"It is impossible for us to thank all the individuals, so we hope this letter of thanks will tell the crews that we appreciate their work.

Sincerely,

Citizens of De Luz Canyon"

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

Congratulations! And this is how the story goes! Mel Worrel, Senior Account Clerk at District VI Headquarters, is very precise about his duties. His wife Teddy was expecting - and the blessed event was scheduled for Saturday, August 26. With exact precision, but just under the wire, Dennis Wayne, 6 lbs. 14 oz. - 20" long - of boy - arrived at 11:45 P.M. on the anticipated date. Teddy is doing well, and as for Mel-well he was able to return to the office the following day to pass out (what am I saying?) the candy and cigars.

Louis F. Taurman, Assistant Construction Inspector, has been with District VI for nearly six months, is to undergo a delicate throat operation at the Eye and Ear Hospital, 500 South Lucas Street, Los Angeles. We join his many friends in wishing him successful results.

Richard A. Groninger has recently accepted the appointment of Forestry Work Project Supervisor in District VI. Dick has a background of 10 years service with the Division of Forestry in southern counties in the capacity of Assistant Ranger and C.C.C. Foreman. He left the Division of Forestry in 1940 to go into the aircraft business as a Purchasing Agent and remained there until his recent appointment. Dick will be located at Oak Glen C.D.C. Camp, 12 miles north of Beaumont, in Riverside County.

Robert J. Moran, formerly Assistant Ranger in San Bernardino County, has been transferred to Madera County as Associate Ranger. Bob has

been replaced by Howard LaPlant.

ORANGE COUNTY

During the month of August continued progress was made on the minor construction projects in Orange County. The addition to the two-car garage at Orange Headquarters; the oil storage building with basement for tires and fire hose is about 50% completed; work was done on the extension to the Training and Recreation rooms at Yorba Linda and Orange.

Additional hazard reduction work has been accomplished in Orange County by fire-proofing of County roads in the most hazardous areas with a thirty-foot fire break constructed in Silverado, Santiago and Live Oak Canyons, adjacent to and paralleling the County Highways. Additional clearing around communities in the fire hazardous areas under a cooperative plan by the County and the Communities whereby crews have made extensive clearings around the homes and the County provided a bulldozer to do the work around the communities - even to the extent of constructing safety zones for evacuating purposes in case of an emergency. One such safety zone of five acres is located at the head of Silverado Canyon where there are some 500 homes, and includes a helicopter landing site.

In connection with this, A Fire Disaster Plan for four communities in the mountainous areas of Orange County has been worked up by Ranger Scherman in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, the County of Orange, the local Volunteer Fire Departments, Cabin Owners Associations, the American Red Cross, County Sheriff's office, California Highway Patrol. This Disaster Plan predetermines the action of all organizations in case of disaster which may be caused by a threatening forest fire. A brief outline of the action to be taken is along the following lines: The Sheriff's office will alert the communities on advice of Forestry officials in charge and will handle the evacuation. The Highway Patrol will close roads if necessary and handle all traffic. The American Red Cross will handle shelter, food, clothing, registration and information. The State Ranger will take charge of protecting homes and will cooperate with the U. S. Forest Service to the end that the forest fire will be handled in the proper way at the same time.

We have just received delivery on one of the new TD-18 Tractors and have had the opportunity to work it in a training course in connection with hazard reduction work with the following results: The two experienced bulldozer operators and a few of the foremen and truck drivers have received additional training and all are well pleased with the performance of the tractor itself. However, being used to the AC tractor and the D-7 County tractor, both with hydraulic lift on the blade, feel that the cable operated lift on the new bulldozer is much harder to work, does not have the advantages of the hydraulic operation and the safety features in going down a steep hill.

James K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

SEPTEMBER VOL 8 NO 9

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

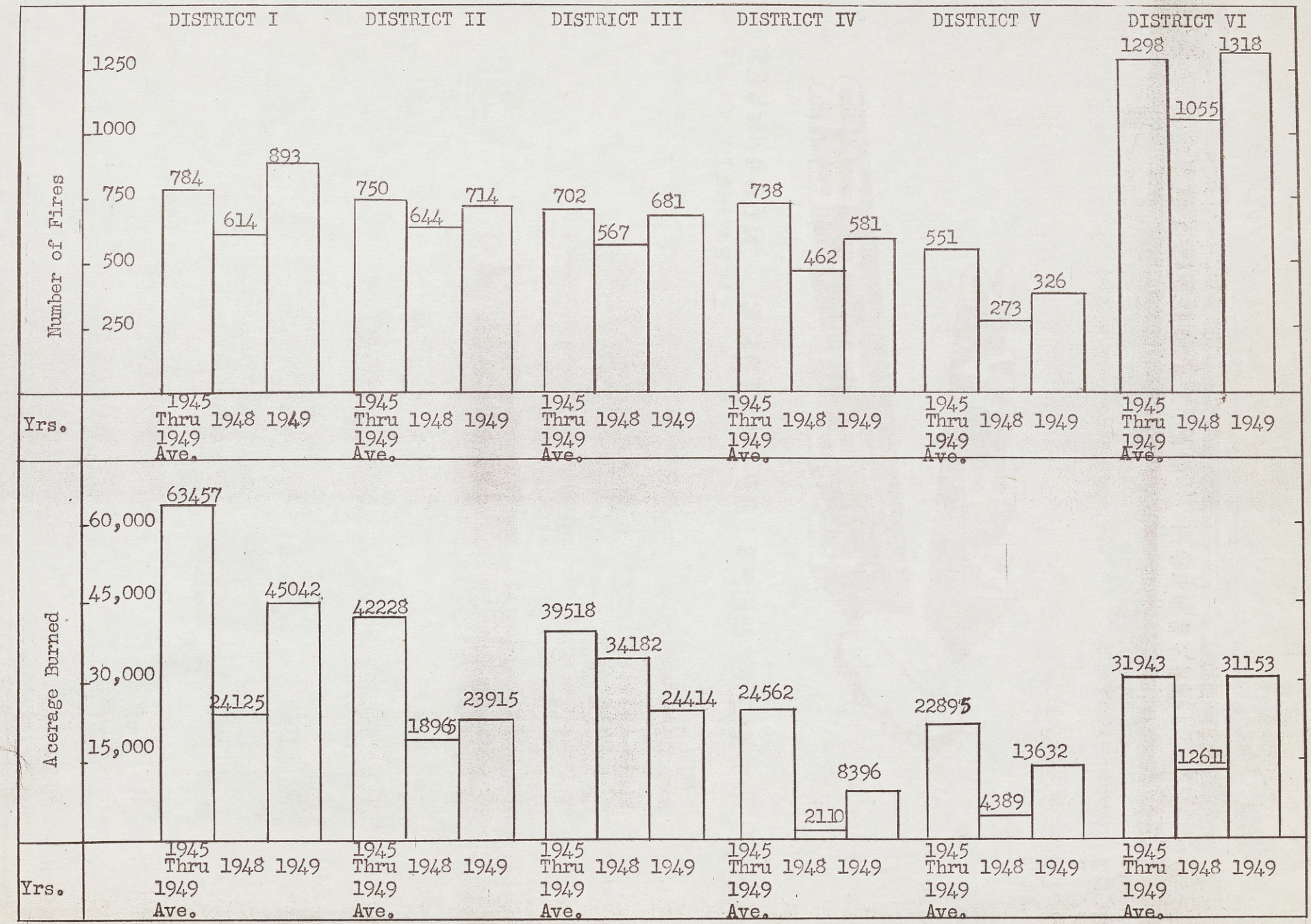
# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
SEPTEMBER 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The month of September presented the usual fire control problems which are characterized by extremely low humidity, high temperatures that occur generally at this time of the year. The unusually dry spring and summer aggravated fire control problems and led to many fires becoming large within a few minutes after starting. Adding to the usual number of accidental and negligent fires occurring during the month were many of incendiary origin in the North Coast region and in the foothill area of the Sierra Nevadas. It is in these areas that ranchers desire the removal of brush vegetation to improve grazing conditions, and hunters want it eliminated to provide more open country and better browse for the deer. The opening of the Sierra deer season on the 16th of the month brought increased hazard to wild land areas. Hunters flocked to the mountains in large numbers and, because of the serious burning conditions, a number of fires of hunter origin reached considerable size. Some fires originally set under full provisions of and compliance with State law by ranchers for range improvement purposes escaped their control lines during the extreme weather conditions of mid-September and added to an already large load of wild fire business.

In great part the major function of all personnel of the Division during the month was fire control. Other responsibilities were of necessity delayed until a later date. On the entire area of thirty-one and one-half million acres protected by the Division, either by law or under contract, 813 fires started during the month of September as compared with 731 in September of 1948, and 999, the average number that has occurred in September since 1945. 64,903 acres were burned during the month compared with 57,485 acres during September of 1948, and 101,231 for a five-year average. Cumulative records through the end of September 1949 on all lands protected by the Division show a total of 4,466 fires as against 3,615 in 1948, and 4,823, the average of the last five years. 146,552 acres have been burned this year to date compared with 96,382 acres last year and 224,603 acres the average of the last five years. These figures apply only to lands protected by the Division and do not include number of fires and acreage burned on the National Forests of California. Lightning caused fires have given considerable difficulty this year, both in numbers and acreage burned. 219 have occurred in Division responsibility area this year as against a 17-year average of 86. Since complete fire records have been kept by this Division, 1949 appears to be the second most numerous in lightning caused fires being exceeded only during the 1939 fire season when 257 lightning caused fires occurred.

Range improvement work on the intermediate brush land area of Central and Northern California gave rise this month to many complicated situations and materially affected the overall fire control work. In the North Coast area including Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties, a total of 94 range improvement control fires were put in by ranchers during the month, there being an average of 15 control fires burning in the above mentioned counties every day during September. Smoke filled sky in this area was not conducive to good detection service from fixed lookout positions, necessitating the Division's use of airplane observation. More than 40 plane flights were made in this area during the month to supplement lookout detection service.

Weather conditions, hazardous at the outset of the month, became increasingly worse as days passed. On the 17th, weather conditions became critical in all parts of the State. In the North Coast region and in the



COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

Mother Lode section, a rush of incendiary fires occurred, adding to the Division's difficulty to contend with accidental or carelessly caused fires. All Division manpower was in use during this critical period with a great deal of assistance being gained from local people, companies, and industries. During this period many of the controlled range improvement burns escaped their control lines and flared into wild fires. The overall situation was equally severe in Southern California where careless and incendiary fires took their toll. Lightning fires were fortunately confined to the first part of the month when burning conditions were not as severe as those experienced later. Major fires of 500 acres or more in size were as follows: 500 acres of brush, grass and timber burned over near Bloody Run in Mendocino County on the 2nd; 1000 acres near Piercy in the same County on the 3rd; 800 acres of brush near Konocti Bay in Lake County on the 3rd; 1000 acres near Julian in San Diego County on the 6th; and another near Escondido in San Diego County of 850 acres on the 9th; a 1000 acre brush and grass fire west of Lyons Peak, San Diego County on the same date. The Deer Creek fire of 1000 acres burned in Tehama County on the 9th; 920 acres of brush and timber were scorched in Butte County on the 10th near Yankee Hill; 3000 acres of brush and timber near the Ysabel Indian Reservation in San Diego County on the 14th; 8000 acre fire near Horse Lake in Lassen County on the 20th. From this date until the weather subsided during the last week of September more than 20 fires burned over 500 acres in size principally in the North Coast region of Lake, Mendocino, and Sonoma Counties. Fires of 3000 and 2000acres occurred during this period in Calaveras and Lassen Counties respectively. An escaped range improvement burn in the Carmel Valley of Monterey County also occurred on the 22nd burning in excess of 1000 acres. Fortunately there were no strong winds during the critical burning period of mid-September. Had there been, undoubtedly excessive acreage would have been destroyed.

Fire prevention work was strengthened during the month in most areas. Field patrols were activated again throughout the entire Sierra region for the purpose of contacting as many sportsmen and travelers to caution and warn them of existing hazards. The radio, press, and a host of industrial cooperators gave extensive publicity to the serious nature of the period and undoubtedly helped considerably in keeping fire occurrence to a minimum.

In what was probably the first meeting of its kind in the history of California forestry, loggers, forest industry representatives and Division foresters got together on the 24th of September in Calaveras County to discuss logging practices in the field. The field meeting was initiated by the loggers themselves with the intent of bettering forest practices in the South Sierra Pine Forest District. More than 100 people attended the meeting which was held on lands now being logged by the Winton Lumber Company. Demonstrations of log skidding, discussions of satisfactory as well as economic leaves after logging, and future reforestation problems of the area characterized the tempo of the meeting. Field conferences of this type should be of great benefit in producing better, if not full compliance, with the Forest Practice Rules.

Initial plans were made this month for reactivating the insect control project in the Lake-Napa District after technicians from the Forest Insect Laboratory had reported a serious insect outbreak earlier in the summer period. It is anticipated that the Division working with local land owners will be involved in quite a large insect eradication program in this area during the winter months.

A second meeting of timber operators of the North Humboldt County area was held in Eureka on the 10th of September. Further progress was made

toward the establishment of some type of industrial association that will supplement Division fire protection in the area.

Construction work continued this month in some areas on the new CDC Forestry Work Camps, a project initiated earlier this summer in cooperation with the California Department of Corrections. In some instances work crews were sent from the prisons to the camp areas to initiate construction work on temporary headquarters for the winter and to start work preparatory to the construction of permanent structures. Stakeside trucks, Caterpillar tractors, and pickups were either on order or delivered during the month for assignment to these Forestry Work Camps.

Preliminary work has finished on the proposed 50-51 Fiscal Year budget and presented to the Departmental Accounting Section for perusal.

The Division maintained small exhibits emphasizing fire prevention at the Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Cruz County Fairs. Thousands of local people were contacted and fire prevention literature distributed.

OREGON STATE FORESTER DIES

Nels Rogers, for many years Oregon State Forester, died in Salem, Oregon on October 18.

SMOKEY HITS COMICS BOOKS

The National Comics Group created and is sponsoring a full-page Forest Fire Prevention cartooned story now being featured in current issues of 33 comic magazines. There are to be ten million copies of magazines that carry this very clever ad, "Smokey, The Forest Fire-Preventing Bear, Comes To The Rescue Of Peter Porkchops." This cooperation was secured through the Advertising Council. This ad again illustrates the growing popularity of Smokey as the nation-wide trademark for Forest Fire Prevention.

WILLIAM VOGT TO BE IN SAN FRANCISCO

The author of "Road to Survival" will summarize and evaluate the more than 50 papers that will be presented before the North American Wildlife Conference to be held next March 6, 7, and 8 in San Francisco. The conference promises to be the largest international meeting on conservation ever held west of the Rocky Mountains.

Administrative Digest - September 21, 1949

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Frederick H. Paget, Hydraulic Engineer in charge of snow surveys for the California Division of Water Resources, died September 16 of a heart attack while in the Coffee Creek area of the Shasta. He had camped at a forest campground overnight and had driven away in the morning. At 6 p.m. that day he was found in his car, not far from the campground, slumped in the front seat. Apparently he had stopped his car before dying. Shasta personnel notified local authorities. The funeral was held September 19 at Sacramento. Fred Paget had earned a notable reputation in the field of snow measurement. He was well known and well liked by Region Fivers who cooperated

in his work. They are grieved by his passing.

* * * * * * * * * * *

A hunter's bullet cut short a promising career in forestry when Robert Douthitt, forester for Graeagle Lumber Company was instantly killed September 16 while cruising timber 15 miles north of Chilcoot, Plumas County. The hunter who mistook him for a deer is known. District Attorney F. H. McAuliffe said the case will be presented to the Grand Jury. Mr. Douthitt, about 29 years old, was the son of Fred Douthitt, Superintendent of San Joaquin Experiment Range, and Mrs. Douthitt. He also leaves a widow. He was a "Cal" graduate. Burial was set for September 21 at Berkeley. All in Region Five extend their sympathy to the parents and the widow.

Administrative Digest - September 21, 1949

SIX CITY POST OFFICES USE CANCELLATION DIES

The Post Office Department has formally approved the use of 48 additional Forest Fire Prevention cancellation dies by Post Offices in 44 cities throughout the U. S., six being in California: Bakersfield, Chico, Eureka, Quincy, San Diego, and Santa Barbara.

RAY POWERS RETIRED DIVISION MAN DIES

Ray Powers, who retired from service with the Division of Forestry in 1940 after employment over a period of 18 years, died of a heart attack on October 4th, and was buried in Redding. He was 79 years old.

In common with many another forestry man, Ray was assigned at various points in the State, and since nobody could resist his cheerful friendliness, he accumulated friends from San Diego to Crescent City. They will be glad to know that Ray was spry and enjoyed himself to the last.

In the past, the county which drew Ray as a lookout considered itself fortunate. Ray was so sharp-eyed, and his record of first reports so high, that Bert Werder, the San Mateo County Firewarden, once protested that he could no longer smoke his pipe in his own backyard at Redwood City, because everytime he stepped outdoors and lit the pipe, Ray Powers phoned in a fire report from the Mt. Hamilton Lookout, clear **across** the Santa Clara Valley!

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM CALAVERAS COUNTY

Harold Woods has been appointed to the position of Assistant Ranger in Calaveras County. "Woody" has been with the CDF in this County for four years, his last position being that of Foreman and Acting Assistant Ranger. His experience has given him a fine knowledge of the county and of the surrounding countryside. He will be in charge of a District embracing practically one-third of the county and will have under his supervision three stations; Copperopolis, Murphys, and Altaville. We're all glad and proud of Woody's success and know he will continue to do a good job.

Also promoted this month were two fire fighters: Delbert Dials and Jack Pratt to truck drivers. They have been assigned to Altaville and Murphys respectively. Transferred to this county from other counties were: Foreman Mark Cauch for Esperanza, Foreman Hank Black to Copperopolis and Foreman Arlie Hill for Headquarters. Mark comes to us from Nevada County, Hank is from San Bernardino and Arlie comes from down San Diego County way.

To add to our "Timber Stand" of Assistant Rangers, another hunk of "wood" has joined our staff: Wallace D. Wood, Assistant Ranger, formerly from Beaumont station, Riverside County. The reader can readily see the difference in height between the two Wood's when they're informed that one is called Harold "Big Tree" Woods and the other, Dick "Splinter" Wood.

With the coming of school, this county has lost many men, and though it is to their advantage, we must still feel the loss of such good men. Among those that have left were Foreman Walter Bolster and assistant Dispatcher Bob Mace. Taking Bob Mace's place and doing a very good job, is John Pedlar, also assistant warehouseman.

Arthur Jasso
Forest Fire Dispatcher

FROM NEVADA COUNTY

C.D.F. personnel in Nevada County have been rather luckless this year as far as getting any deer are concerned. But we have not been without venison to say the least. While enroute to a recent fire, truck driver Don Glendon was confronted with a four point buck which proceeded to get in the way of and be hit by our fire truck. That meat proved to be rather costly because of repair bills; but at least we had a good fill of buck steaks this season.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

ATTENTION ALL FOREST OFFICERS

The following described chain saw was stolen from the Mountain Home State Forest on or about September 19, 1949: make, Disston with Mercury motor 11 h.p.; model, G 4 B 11; Engine KB7A; Serial #35317; CDF #E39-303. The latter number is stamped on the case. If in any forest inspection this saw is located, please advise District IV.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

INSPECTION REPORT FROM DISTRICT MECHANIC RAMSDEN

District Mechanic Ramsden submitted the following inspection report that was most disconcerting to our more naive clerks, to wit: Dirty air cleaner, adjust hand brake, replace door glass, and then--motor missing. Oh well, maybe some one mislaid it.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

DON'T LET A NAME MISLEAD YOU

Don't let a name mislead you, for we have found there is nothing schlo about Dean Schlobohm because he showed up in the office the other day with a double dose of cigars and candy and announced that (with the cooperation of Mrs. Schlobohm, of course) he was now the father of twin girls, Ann and Jan, born September 13th in San Francisco. According to Dean, the stork really sneaked up on Mrs. Schlobohm and the family M.D. who had approved a San Francisco visit a few hours before. Now double trouble Dean has double exemptions.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

MARIPOSA COUNTY LOOKOUT & DISPATCHER FIGURE IN BANDIT CHASE

About 9:30 p.m. September 13th, three men held up the Bridge Cafe at Hornitos, California, and headed toward Bear Valley. The quickest way to notify the Sheriff's office was to call over the State Forestry line via Williams Peak and dispatcher at Mariposa Headquarters.

After notifying the dispatcher, Lookout John Anthony picked up the headlight of a car traveling fast toward Bear Valley. He kept Dispatcher Coble informed of the exact location of the car at all times, who in turn relayed it on to the Sheriff. A road block was put in at Mt. Bullion and the bandits are now resting in the Mariposa County Jail.

G. R. Light
Assistant Ranger

SNAKE TROUBLE

A sight one would be amazed to see would be that of Ranger Hufford and the District IV Radio Technician attempting to see who could first reach the top of a mountain top radio repeater cabinet. This very incident occurred during the month of September when Ranger Hufford of Mariposa County accompanied District Radio Technician Jerry Faas to his Mt. Bullion Radio Repeater Station.

While the District Radio Technician was diligently adjusting the repeater, Hufford who was standing beside the equipment looking on, suddenly noticed to his extreme horror, a large rattlesnake slithering into the cement vault. Hufford let out with a whoop and it was questionable for a time as to which man would make it to the top of the radio cabinet. Inasmuch as Hufford jumped first, he gained the top of the cabinet and looking around, found to his intense relief that the snake had turned and retreated. Hufford states the snake must have been as worried as he was. The radio technician assisted Hufford down from his hors de combat position and the two men bravely marched outside and made short work of Mr. Rattlesnake.

The moral of the story, fellow radio technicians, is to have someone watch the door to your repeater stations as well as making sure that there are no snakes hidden on the inside of the repeater vault.

MILK CARTON USED AS EMERGENCY FLARE

With the fire danger ratings lowering, it might be safe to pass on this hint. It is suggested that a couple of empty milk cartons be carried in all vehicles. Experiments show that one carton will burn for at least 20 minutes, providing an excellent emergency flare or a light to change a tire by.

Harry Ramsden, Mechanic

FORD MOVES TO KINGS COUNTY

Richard Ford, formerly dispatcher in Madera County, arrived in Kings County in the latter part of September to fill the newly created assistant ranger position established in the dissolution of the Avenal Fire District. Ford started with the Division in 1941 and then went on military leave with the army air force for three years. He rejoined the CDF family in 1947 as dispatcher at Madera and remained there until his transfer. Ford's new position complicates personnel matters through the presence of an identical twin and assistant ranger as well, named Bob, serving in Santa Cruz County.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

WEST FRESNO AIR PATROL WORKING WELL

We have now had the Air Patrol on in this area (Western Fresno) for 90 days. The plane, an all-metal Luscome "65", has flown under all types of conditions such as lightning, rain, light air, cold air, warm air, smooth air, and rough air. No trouble has been encountered in any of the above conditions.

I am reasonably certain that it has proven satisfactory, and as far as this particular region is concerned, it's what we need.

Most of the area concerned is under observation at a distance from other lookouts or is under observation from local persons. We are, therefore, in need of something that can take care of those isolated areas that are not observed by either lookouts or local people during the peak period of the day when a fire is most likely to occur. The airplane seems to be the answer. It is also costing us less than a lookout would. We can also call on him at any time for special flights (with permission) and he will give us a quick check on any smoke reported.

During the past deer season he reported any concentrations of either people or cars so that we knew better what areas needed the most watching, which also worked out quite well.

The communications from plane to ground can be improved by the use of F.M. instead of A.M. Possibly the new handie talkies soon to be received will help the situation in that they will be easier to carry in the plane, and no interference from static or weather conditions will be encountered. Also a car will be able to contact the plane from whatever its location may be.

We have as yet not had any fire close to here for the pilot to work on, but a few times he has reported something out of the ordinary.

One time specifically while on regular patrol he reported something that looked like smoke in the Cottonwood Pass area. He was sent to check on this and it turned out to be dust and ashes blowing off an old burn, but we had a report back in exactly three minutes (according to the Radio Log). This relieved our minds and kept us from going to the expense of sending trucks in to investigate, which would have been the case had a lookout reported it.

This patrol has been given quite a little local publicity, but no specific number of flights per day has been announced, except that one to three flights a day has been made and the time of day each flight is made is also varied. No two days are alike, nor any week alike, and also the course that is flown by the plane over the West leg of his flight is varied. This is done for its fire prevention value. All persons living in the hills know we are using the plane, but they are not able to tell which one is the patrol plane. When it is passing over, therefore, every plane is a patrol plane to them. Anyone that might be inclined towards some free brush removal would probably more or less hesitate in touching anything off.

N. F. Nicholson
Associate Ranger

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

We are bidding farewell to Assistant Ranger Frank Weatherford, who after the first of October will henceforth be known as "Associate", moving from San Luis Obispo Headquarters to King City, Monterey County. Frank came to us early this summer, about June, from Orange County.

Other losses and gains this past summer have been: Foreman Everett Caudel from Monterey County coming to San Luis Obispo as Assistant Ranger replacing Dave Hall who transferred to Butte County as Assistant. Caudel is presently assigned to Paso Robles working with Assistant Ranger Les Lopez. Truck driver Jack Martin from Headquarters working this summer as 7-months Equipment Operator has been transferred to the new C.D.C. camp at Slack Canyon as did "Pete" Reese, also Headquarters Truck Driver.

Once again this Fall we had an exhibit in our local county fair at Paso Robles. This year in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service and the State Fish and Game organization, we installed a booth with evergreen boughs making a backdrop, with a dummy....a mannekin that is, not a CDF'er.....lying in a sleeping bag showing a model camp. In the foliage surrounding the camp site, were placed mounted animals and birds furnished by Fish and Game Warden Charlie Fullerton. Assistant Ranger Caudel and Forest Patrolman Ted Waddell from U.S.F.S. Pozo attended the booth distributing fire prevention literature and discussing all phases of forestry with interested persons. Once again, we felt the display was a huge success from every standpoint, even though we didn't win a green ribbon, as last year.

The new Paso Robles station has been occupied by the crew and the residence is about ready for someone to move into. The crew is landscaping the yard, installing walks and curbs, water systems and the usual run of other smaller jobs connected with a new station. This new station is a big asset to this county and of course we'll be glad to show it off to any of you who just happen along into this part of the State. It is

located just two miles south of Paso Robles on Highway 101.

In reading past issues of the News Letter, we have read about various other headquarters getting new offices or enlargements of their present buildings - well San Luis Obispo is too. The excavation is completed and we're just waiting for the rest to come along. We hope it will be soon.

ATTENTION ALL "CLAM" LOVERS: We have just received word that the clam reserve south of the Pismo-Oceano beach is going to be opened. This should afford some pretty good clamming. Of course by the time this gets to everyone, we should have worked the beds over pretty good, but without a doubt, there will be plenty for any of you who want to sojourn this way soon.

Maurice Davis
Forest Fire Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

We are willing to wager that "Cab" Brown, Project Supervisor at Rainbow CDC Camp is "off" betting hereafter unless it is a "sure thing." Cab is now paying off because instead of the twin boys he was anticipating, his wife presented him with another baby girl: Elena Marie, 9 lbs. 1 oz. born 6:08 A.M. on September 22. Congratulations Mr. & Mrs. Brown!

Lou Taurman has come thru his recent operation with flying colors and expects to return shortly to his duties as Assistant Construction Inspector. We shall be happy to have Lou back with us.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Truman Holland, Ranger of Riverside County, has recently received the following letter from the Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of Commerce regarding the recent fire at Lakeland Village which started inside the National Forest, and was practically all confined to that area:

"The Board of Directors of the Lake Elinsore Valley Chamber of Commerce have, by resolution, requested the writer to express to you gentlemen their deep appreciation and sincere gratitude for the heroic effort made by all of you in preventing the further spread of the recent fire near Grand Avenue. It was a splendid job and one that the residents of this Valley will long remember.

The Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of
Commerce

/s/ (S. Purcell, Sec'y.) "

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

A cooperative fire prevention and deer patrol was conducted with the U. S. Forest Service in the Lytle Creek to San Antonio Canyon area the first Sunday of deer season. An above normal influx of users was noted and fire prevention contacts were made with reference to the fire closure zone as well as deer patrol activities in general.

The fire districts and volunteer fire departments training and meetings instructors reports are very good for the past month, with attendance and enthusiasm running higher as our meetings and training programs continue. The San Bernardino Library has been very helpful with our fire prevention campaign. They have used 1500 of our fire prevention book markers the past month.

In cooperation with the U.S.F.S. our C.D.F. exhibit at the San Bernardino County Fair held in Victorville was viewed by approximately 75,000. Assistant Ranger H. LaPlant and Mr. Robinson of the U.S.F.S. are to be given credit for a very good fire prevention exhibit.

Mr. T. Bushnell transferred from Riverside County to take the position of Forest Fire Fighter Foreman. Mr. Pat Critchlow left us to take a Foreman's position at the new CDC Camp at Oak Glen. Mr. R. Wild from Orange County has taken the position of Truck Driver at San Bernardino Headquarters.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

FIRE RECORD - REGION 5
Report for Period Ending September 30, 1949

| Current 15-Day Period | | | | | | | | | | Period from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1949 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Class of Fires | | | | | | | Area Burned | | | Class of Fires | | | | | | | Area Burned | | |
| A | B | C | D | E | Total | MC | N.F. Land In-Side | Total With-in Pr. Bdry. | Forest | A | B | C | D | E | Total | MC | N.F. Land In-side | Total With-In Pr. Bdry. | |
| 10 | 3 | 2 | | | 15 | 5 | 29 | 29 | Angeles | 33 | 13 | 2 | | 1 | 49 | 39 | 44 | 44 | |
| 2 | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | Clev. | 25 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 45 | 40 | 1452 | 1477 | |
| 4 | 3 | | | | 7 | 1 | 4 | 4 | Eldor. | 69 | 17 | | 2 | | 88 | 32 | 357 | 359 | |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 3 | 1 | 25 | 25 | Inyo | 24 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 37 | 13 | 1395 | 1395 | |
| 44 | 10 | 3 | 1 | | 58 | 6 | 301 | 301 | Klamath | 145 | 42 | 7 | 2 | | 196 | 39 | 587 | 591 | |
| 17 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 21 | 8 | 1228 | 1238 | Lassen | 152 | 22 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 179 | 47 | 1411 | 1476 | |
| 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | | Los P. | 14 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 27 | 25 | 6255 | 6255 | |
| 5 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 1135 | 1135 | Mendoc. | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 14 | 1889 | 1889 | |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | | | 13 | 8 | 39 | 39 | Modoc | 106 | 30 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 149 | 35 | 8670 | 11238 | |
| 7 | 4 | | | | 11 | 6 | 16 | 21 | Plumas | 167 | 66 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 252 | 79 | 1506 | 2306 | |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6212 | 6212 | San B. | 55 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 73 | 65 | 6428 | 6428 | |
| 8 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 12 | 5 | 780 | 780 | Sequoia | 51 | 13 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 79 | 31 | 2475 | 2537 | |
| 52 | 11 | 1 | 2 | | 66 | 19 | 228 | 388 | Shasta | 214 | 53 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 282 | 107 | 6992 | 7440 | |
| 13 | 2 | | | | 15 | 6 | 2 | 2 | Sierra | 75 | 31 | 3 | | | 109 | 48 | 118 | 124 | |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | | | 12 | 6 | 2 | 2 | Six R. | 30 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 49 | 32 | 361 | 361 | |
| 12 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 19 | 13 | 224 | 226 | Stan. | 55 | 27 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 92 | 53 | 6836 | 6838 | |
| 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 12 | 1439 | 1439 | Tahoe | 121 | 35 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 166 | 66 | 2398 | 2406 | |
| 6 | 4 | | | | 10 | 3 | 1158 | 1158 | Trinity | 45 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 66 | 22 | 8433 | 8668 | |
| 209 | 58 | 15 | 8 | 5 | 295 | 110 | 12822 | 12999 | Totals | *1390 | 412 | 97 | 37 | 23 | b959 | 787 | 57607 | 61832 | |

Corresponding Totals Same Period 1948

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 63 | 23 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 94 | 90 | 472 | 473 | Totals | 578 | 197 | 44 | 12 | 17 | 848 | 642 | 50882 | 51094 | |

Five Year Average Same Period 1944 to 1948

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 71 | 30 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 115 | 98 | 8328 | 8603 | Aver. | 836 | 290 | 67 | 21 | 32 | 1245 | 698 | 64822 | 67168 | |

OCTOBER VOL 8 NO 10

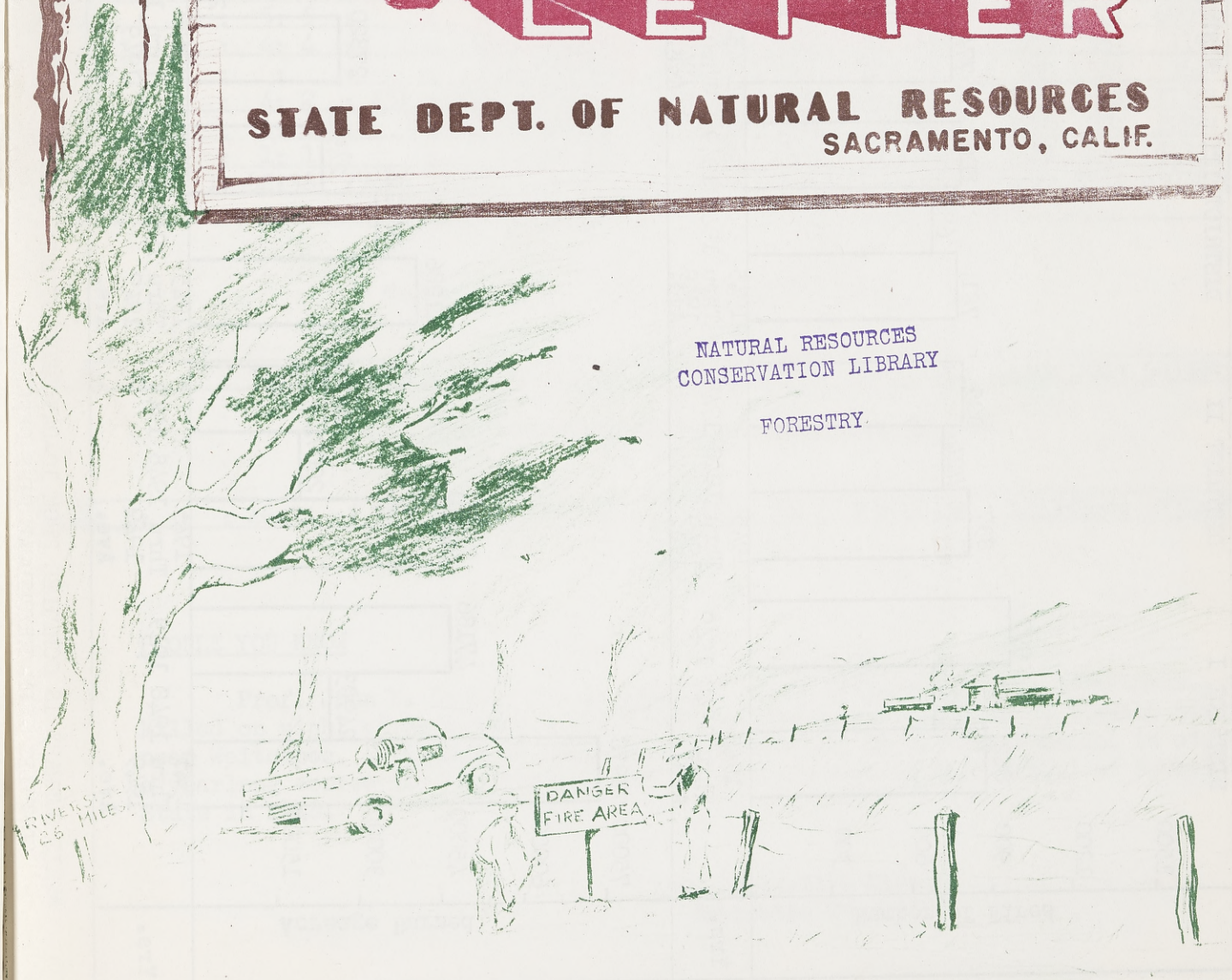
# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

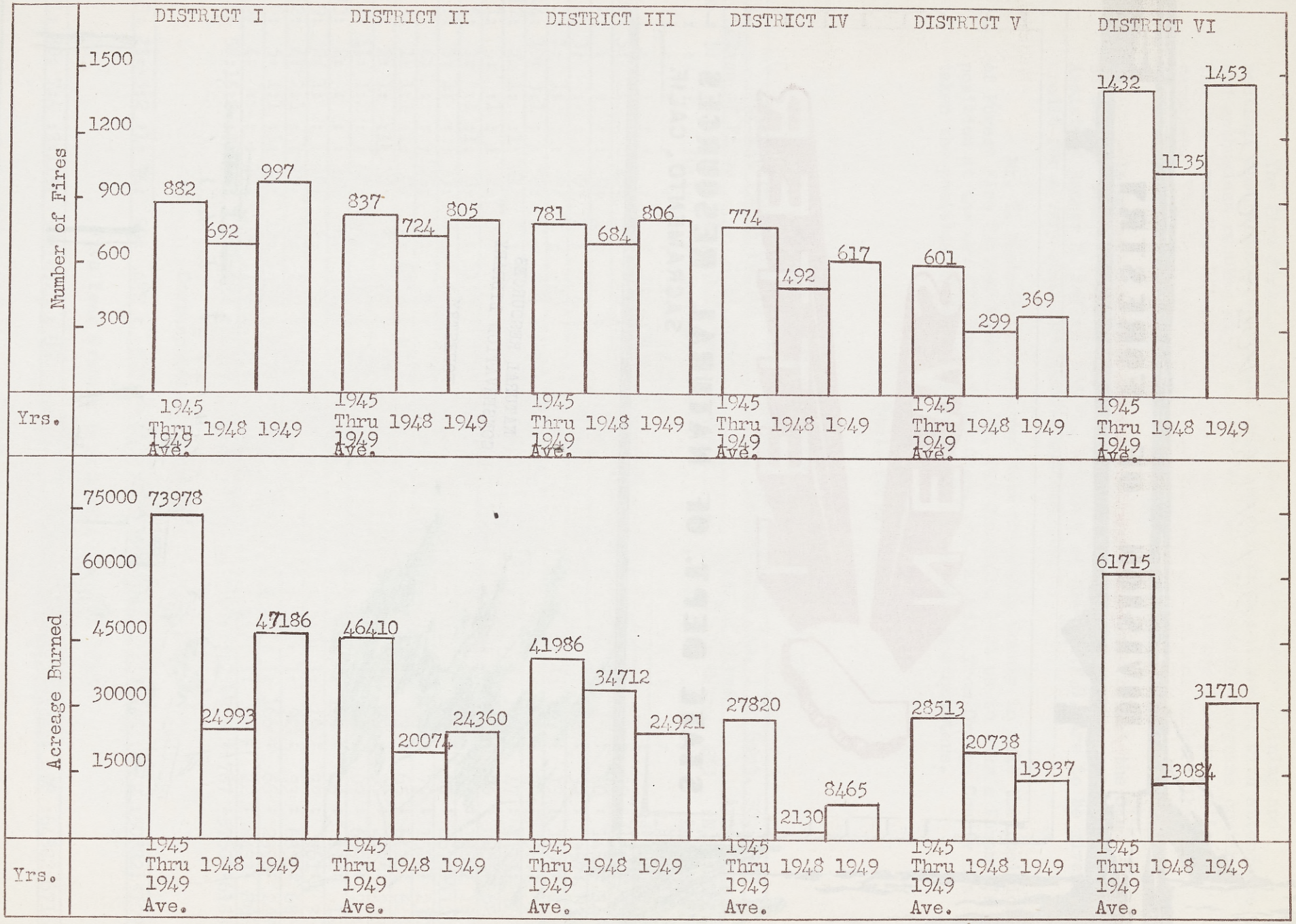
STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

FORESTRY



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
OCTOBER 31, 1949 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

FIRE RECORD -- REGION 5 U. S. FOREST SERVICE
Report for Period Ending October 31, 1949

| Current 15-Day Period | | | | | | | | | | Period from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1949 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Class of Fires | | | | | | Area Burned | | | | Class of Fires | | | | | | Area Burned | | | |
| A | B | C | D | E | Total | Man Caused | N.F. Land & Inside | Total Within Pr. Bdry. | National Forest | A | B | C | D | E | Total | Man Caused | N.F Land & Inside | Total Within Pr. Bdry. |
| 6 | 2 | | | 1 | 9 | 1 | 7102 | 7102 | Angeles | 43 | 15 | 2 | | 2 | 62 | 44 | 7147 | 7147 |
| 2 | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | Cleve. | 27 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 48 | 43 | 1548 | 1573 |
| 3 | 2 | | | | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | Eldor. | 75 | 20 | | 2 | | 97 | 37 | 359 | 363 |
| | | | | | | | | | Inyo | 27 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 41 | 13 | 1396 | 1396 |
| 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | Klamath | 152 | 43 | 7 | 2 | | 204 | 43 | 602 | 606 |
| 4 | | | | | 4 | 4 | | | Lassen | 162 | 26 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 139 | 60 | 1413 | 1479 |
| | | | | | | | | | Los P. | 15 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 28 | 26 | 6255 | 6255 |
| | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | Mendoc. | 10 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 24 | 17 | 2029 | 2029 |
| | | | | | | | | | Modoc | 107 | 31 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 152 | 36 | 8634 | 11293 |
| 4 | | | | | 4 | 4 | | | Plumas | 179 | 65 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 263 | 89 | 1513 | 2311 |
| 8 | | | | | 8 | 5 | | | San B. | 68 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 86 | 74 | 6672 | 6672 |
| 8 | 1 | 1 | | | 10 | | 51 | 51 | Sequoia | 68 | 16 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 100 | 37 | 2164 | 2226 |
| 4 | 1 | | | | 5 | 5 | | 6 | Shasta | 223 | 59 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 297 | 120 | 6995 | 7451 |
| 3 | 1 | | | | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | Sierra | 82 | 32 | 3 | | | 117 | 55 | 119 | 125 |
| | | | | | | | | | Six R. | 30 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 49 | 32 | 361 | 361 |
| 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | 2 | 251 | 251 | Stan. | 64 | 30 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 106 | 64 | 7110 | 7112 |
| 4 | | | | | 4 | 4 | | | Tahoe | 130 | 37 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 177 | 77 | 2288 | 2374 |
| 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | Trinity | 47 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 68 | 24 | 8433 | 8668 |
| 50 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 62 | 36 | 7406 | 7412 | Totals | 1509 | 439 | 101 | 39 | 24 | 2112 | 891 | 65038 | 69441 |

Corresponding Totals Same Period 1948

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | 8 | 3 | | | 34 | 30 | 113 | 119 | Totals | 643 | 214 | 47 | 14 | 18 | 936 | 721 | 50339 | 50585 |

Five Year Average Same Period 1944 to 1948

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | 13 | 1 | | | 46 | 24 | 151 | 209 | Average | 966 | 322 | 70 | 22 | 34 | 1413 | 766 | 67724 | 70818 |

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Prof. John H. Lewis, 35, of Humboldt State College wildlife department., was killed on night of September 24 when his jeep went over the bank on Klamath River near Weitchpec. A leader in conservation education, he was instrumental in starting a yearlong course in conservation (one of the few such in California) at Humboldt State in 1948.

Administrative Digest
September 28, 1949



COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

YOSEMITE DRAWS MORE VISITORS

During the travel year from October 1, 1948, to September 30, 1949, Yosemite National Park was visited by a total of 802,572 people. This breaks all park records for travel and exceeds the previous record year of 1947 by 3.4%. It is 7% greater than the 749,861 visitors in 1948.

News release, National Park Service

DRY ICE TESTS POSTPONED

Plans to test Dr. V. J. Schaefer's theory that incipient lightning storm clouds can be dissipated by dry icing were postponed until 1950, after Nature failed to produce the pair of simultaneous, similar clouds essential to such a test. Although the Forest Service and the Air Forces cooperated by equipping a C-47 and a B-29 plane with a dry-ice hopper and H. T. Gisborne waited for six weeks at Priest River for the proper cloud conditions, not a single test could be made.

(R-1 News, 9-16-49)

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

October weather was unusually warm throughout California and, although no critical conditions were experienced, a large number of fires occurred. During the month 581 fires started on lands protected by the Division in comparison to 411 for the month of October last year and 484 the average monthly total 1945 thru 1949. Suppression personnel were able to hold acreage burned to 4,027 acres compared to 19,300 razed during October, 1949; and 75,800 acres for the average October burn during the years 1945 thru 1949. North winds prevailed in some areas but failed to reach critical intensities. Accumulative totals to date, January 1 thru ~~October~~ October 31, 1949, shows 5,047 fires started on lands protected by the Division, compared to 4,026 in 1948 and 5,307 as the average number experienced during the last five years. Acreage burned to date has been held at 150,500 acres. 115,700 acres were burned over the similar period of 1948 and the average number of acres scorched for the period 1945 thru 1949 totals 280,400. The acreage figures are noteworthy for foresters feel burning conditions this season were unusually critical and the potentials of fire loss extreme. Despite the severity of the summer fire weather it is also interesting to note that the total number of fires is slightly below the five year average despite the fact that there was heavier usage of foothill and mountain areas by both industry and the public at large this year. There is little question in our minds that the wealth of information reaching California people thru expanded actions of cooperating organizations and the major informational medias have certainly helped this year to keep both fire occurrences and fire losses to a minimum.

With the exception of the Southern California areas there has been sufficient rain throughout the State to bring the fire season to a close. Scattered showers helped the Southern California condition considerably during the first part of November and we are extremely hopeful that additional rainfall will occur in that section of California.

As foresters anticipate a poor forest tree seed crop next year, the Division has made every effort this season to build up a considerable seed bank at the State nursery to provide for the needs of our experimental nursery

program for at least the next two year period. Cones now fill every available storage space at the State Nursery and seed extraction and cleaning will be in progress during the entire winter period.

The Division released this month a mimeograph publication entitled "Tree Planting for California Forests and Farms." The booklet includes information concerning State laws governing the sale of trees and seed, methods of planting, care of trees and a complete list of trees available from the State Nursery. It has been prepared as an aid to interested farmers and forest land owners who desire such information.

The Division has planned but one sale of Christmas trees from California State Forests. Approximately 5,000 trees have been harvested from the Latour State Forest, from over-stocked lands by C.Y.A. labor. They have been advertised for sale and will be sold in lots of 500 trees each.

Two members of the Division's technical staff will attend a training school conducted by the School of Forestry, University of California, in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service at the Feather River Experimental Station near Quincy, Plumas County. A week of instruction primarily having to do with the use of aerial photography as applied to forestry will be given to those foresters in attendance.

Farm forestry work progressed satisfactorily during the month, many contacts being made with small forest land owners in forest areas of the State. In District I, the North Coast area, at least twelve new owners were contacted during the month.

A considerable amount of range improvement work was accomplished in October by ranchers in the North Coast and in the Northern and Central region of the Sierra Nevada foothills. Weather conditions were favorable for the use of fire as a land clearance tool and ranchers grasped the opportunity to initiate many range improvement projects. Division of Forestry personnel spent many hours in standby service giving additional protection to lands adjacent to control burned projects. Experimental work was conducted at the Rescue Range Experimental project in El Dorado County. A 20-acre area was cleared by bulldozers for experimental seeding work, another plot re-treated with chemical sprays, and a demonstration was held for the use of portable powered saws for the removal of brush vegetation. On the Springdell Experimental Range area in San Benito County fencing was started during the month and will be completed some time in November.

The winter construction program got under way during the month. The temporary work camp for Department of Correction inmates in District I near Ft. Bragg, Mendocino County, has been completed except for the installation of a water system and heating units. Leveling for permanent structures is expected to be completed shortly. Plans were completed in District III, the Mother Lode area, for the establishment of a temporary work camp at Higgins Corner Station in Nevada County. C.D.C. inmates will be housed at this station while working on the permanent camp buildings in the area. The temporary Miramonte C.D.C. Camp in Fresno County, District IV, has been finished and water, power, and telephone services developed. Foundations for the warehouse has been poured and 25 tent platforms constructed. Individual building sites have been excavated and foundation forms for the equipment shed are in place at the Slack Canyon C.D.C. in Monterey County, District V. Inmates have started on heavier construction work on the permanent camp. The temporary camp at Oak

Glen C.D.C. Camp in Riverside County will be completed about the 1st of November and construction will start on the permanent camp.

Minor construction work was under way in most areas. The fire control station barracks at Korbel in Humboldt County has been completed. Work has been started on the erection of two residences and an office at Sonora in Tuolumne County, on equipment sheds in Calaveras County, and on equipment sheds and a ranger residence in Amador County. Barracks and other buildings at various suppression stations in Madera and Merced Counties are progressing satisfactorily. Work was started on a twelve men barracks at Hollister in San Benito County and, except for a final coat of paint the ranger residence at Hollister is ready for occupancy.

National Fire Prevention Week was observed by Division personnel throughout the State. The Division participated in a great number of programs, demonstrations, and presentations before adult groups discussing the reasons for and importance of outdoor fire prevention.

STATE FORESTRY OFFICE MOVED

W. P. Maguire, Farm Forester for El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Yuba, and Sierra Counties has moved his office from the Post Office Building, Placerville to the County Ranger Station near Camino. He wishes to advise the public and his clients that his new office location is at Mt. Danaher Station near Camino.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM AMADOR COUNTY:

The month of September was a rather mild fire month for Amador County, the largest fire being only 125 acres. We certainly had our fingers crossed at times for many requests for help came from other counties and not too many hands were left to hold down the fort.

Plane reconnaissance was used after a lightning storm on the chance of spotting a smoke. A snag on fire in the very top was picked up with ease and men and equipment guided to it in a matter of minutes. The use of a plane for searches of this type is essential and effective fire control. It has proven itself twice in Amador County this season. If anyone has a good preventative for air sickness we would appreciate a little advice.

We note in last month's issue of the News Letter where Coulterville Station in Mariposa County had a party from the revenue of a "kitty". Pine Lodge Station under Foreman Bob Rolfe, had a similar party this month paid for by the earnings of their "kitty". They had turkey and everything that goes with it. I was told that after the feed there was still twenty some odd dollars left. This rather amazed me. I didn't realize how colorful some of our speech must be.

To get back to the more serious aspects of our work we wish to mention the meeting which the Winton Lumber Company sponsored in the vicinity of their Lilly Gap Camp in Calaveras County. The meeting was for the purpose of demonstrating good and bad falling and skidding practices in the woods. Winton's sent invitations to many operators, owners, and private persons interested in the lumber industry. There were over a hundred persons present, some from as far south as Bakersfield. It is one of the most impressing

meetings relative to forest practices that I have attended. The people who do the work in the woods were there and the fact that they were there indicates that their interest in good forest practice is aroused. For my part I believe this is an indication that good management and conservation in the woods has come a long way. There wouldn't have been much response to a meeting of this kind a few years back.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

FROM ELDORADO COUNTY

After much fitting, refitting, and forcing with a little persuasive language, El Dorado County personnel have finally succeeded in assembling what we think is the tallest lookout tower in the CDF, 109 ft., 11 inches. Plans are under way for the installation of a repeater station on the tower at Danaher for the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office. Completion of the plan is expected in the near future.

The new office building has been occupied for nearly a month and the office force is still looking for odds and ends and coming up with things they never saw before. That's one reason why El Dorado was not heard from in the last issue of the News Letter.

We have had a variety of meat on the table the last month or so, Foreman Larry Richey brought in an antelope which he shot in Lassen County, FEO Williamson was successful in bagging an exceptionally large buck, and Driver Charlie Lunsford killed two bear on his first hunt. By the time the next issue is out we hope to have eaten some elk.

After many set backs, the new Pilot Hill station was opened this month just in time to start thinking about closing it for the winter. Excavation has been started at the El Dorado Station for the construction of a new barracks, a mess hall and (we hope) a new garage.

Jim Barnhart
Assistant Ranger

YUBA COUNTY

With the end of fire season (nearly) in sight, Yuba County is experiencing a turnover of Truck Drivers and Fire Fighters.

Two ex-Fire Fighters have been advanced to Truck Drivers---Stanley Barrie and George Meyer.

And with the decline in the personnel of Fire Fighters, we have the usual increase in construction and maintenance facing us.

The Brownsville Camp is busy with its water development problems, (granite, that is) and Marysville is continuing activity in landscaping. We are completing a major project in the way of 1500 cubic yards of dirt fill, and, with the aid of District Engineer Charles Tobi, we have completed our lawn leveling. We are also happy to announce that building materials have commenced to flow in, so we may begin construction of the headquarter's garage.

Also along the construction line.....the Alicia County Station had it's face lifted, or, rather, lowered. An observation post, dating from the days of the war, has been removed and a new roof has replaced it. Aiding in this project were Truck Drivers Al Paloska and Hubert Edwards. The latter is still trying to explain what he was doing on the partially constructed roof one night, when he lost his balance and fell through the ceiling, thus spraining his back. For this, he demanded five days CTO in order to recuperate...during deer season.

One Yuba County hunter, in desperation has turned to the fertile fields of Utah. Ranger Mike Brock, with a glean in his eye, took leave of Yuba County October 20th and although at the time of this writing he has not yet made his triumphant return, we fully expect him to bring back the biggest buck shot in Utah. There are rumors that the District III Party Planning Commission is expecting him to bring home the "bacon".

H. P. Reinecker
Assistant Ranger

NEVADA COUNTY

A temporary C.D.C. Camp has been established in Nevada County at Higgins Corner suppression station. With the addition of a large 70 x 18 dormitory and a shower house building, along with the buildings that were there we will house approximately 30 inmates plus overhead. We only had ten days notice of the incoming camp so a mad scramble ensued to make the necessary preparations. All hands went to work on it and at the end of seven days thanks to the good construction and leadership ability of Willard Weselsky Assistant Ranger, the camp was ready for occupancy on time. The permanent C.D.C. Camp is to be located in Placer County and so Associate Ranger, Jim Hayes will be acting liaison officer between two counties until the permanent camp is established.

Congratulations are in order for F.E.O. Everett Fox who became the father of a new firefighter last night, November 2nd. No name given yet. The Foxes are also parents of a daughter whose birthday is also November 2nd. Pretty good timing I' say!

A New CSEA Chapter, Goldminers #102 has been formed in Nevada City of which the CDF seems to have a majority membership. The fact that Associate Ranger Jim Hayes and Assistant Ranger Willard Weselsky are both newly elected officers bears out this fact.

A few of our Civil Service Employees will have to leave us this Fall due to winter layoff. Foreman W. T. Bankus, and Drivers Bob Odgers and Jim Williams will transfer to the C.D.C. program and Foreman Bill Mitchell will transfer to Placer County. We are fortunate in having year long jobs for all our Civil Service men.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

AERIAL PATROL IN WESTERN FRESNO COUNTY DISCONTINUED

The aerial patrol in Western Fresno County was discontinued on October 20th with rising humidity and other factors which lessened the normal fire hazards of the area. In general, the service was satisfactory and it is

felt that its service as a fire prevention medium is incalculable. Local residents learned to know the ship and the fire patrol, and though the plane was operated on an irregular schedule many persons claimed to see the "Fire Plane" when it was actually on the ground. In any event, the area which was under patrol did not suffer a single campaign fire, even though the ground cover, terrain and useage is the most hazardous.

Communications between plane and ground worked perfectly and several potential fires were prevented by prompt liaison between ground and air. We of District IV compliment Mr. N. T. McCollum of the Coalinga Air Service for the interest shown in this project and for the many miles he flew over and above his contract so that we in this District could be of greater service to the public in reducing our man-caused fires.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

KINGS COUNTY

Kings County is right at the top of the list of those counties awaiting the cooperation of ole Jupe Pluvius after doubling of fires in October over the same month last year. Although no serious blazes were recorded, 36 involving 35 acres and a total loss of $12,660 occurred against 15 for October 1948. Even so with the addition of the dissolved Avenal Fire District, the occurrence to date is 174 against 143 for 1948.

October also weeded out the mountaineers and seafarers on days off with the progress of deer season and the opening of a government clam reserve near Pismo. No particulars will be furnished to avoid personal embarrassment.

Lifted eyebrows are raised on anyone mentioning the word "butane" after three calls to tanker accidents and one call to a labor camp storage tank. The only resulting fire, the first one along the Fresno County line in late September, set some unofficial track records when the trailer became jet propelled as one end was blown out.

Joe Barros, Foreman at Hanford, was hospitalized twice during the month with pneumonia but he is on the job again herding the Hanford Headquarters Construction Project.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

WELCOME TO NEW PERSONNEL IN DISTRICT IV

District IV welcomes into its organization the following personnel: Robert J. Moran from San Diego County who has been appointed as Associate Ranger in Madera County to replace Alvin Filippini who was transferred to the District Office. Jack Cullumber of Placer County who was recently assigned to the Rancheria District of Madera County replaces Associate Ranger Hickle who has been assigned to Range Improvement. To complete the Madera County picture we must point out that Former Dispatcher Dick Ford has finally caught up with his twin, Assistant Ranger Bob Ford of Santa Cruz, by receiving his appointment as Assistant Ranger in Kings County. Dick has been replaced by Tom O. Potter as Madera's Dispatcher. Last, but not least, John "Corky" Clark, former Assistant Ranger in Tulare, has been promoted to Forestry Work Project

Supervisor in charge of the C.D.C. Camp at Miramonte, with "Corky's" berth as Assistant Ranger in the Miramonte District being filled by Allen Bensen, a transferee from Shasta County.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

NEWS FROM DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

The new CDC Camp at Oak Glen (12 miles north of Beaumont, on the Riverside San Bernardino County line) is really moving right along. With the delivery of the camp's vehicle complement of 3 new stakesides, dump truck, pickup and D-7 Bulldozer, and under the guidance of Project Supervisor Dick Groninger, construction of the permanent camp is getting under way. On Tuesday, November 8, the temporary tent camp was officially activated and at the present time subsists a crew of 20 inmates from the Institution at Chino. With the incentive caused by the splendid view offered by this campsite along with the famous Oak Glen apples, cider, and abundance of 4-point bucks, we anticipate an increase in crime as a means of obtaining "positions" in this new camp.

Jack D. Burke
Associate Ranger

Mrs. Jeanette Burke, who has been with San Bernardino Headquarters since 1944, has undergone an operation. Jeanette entered the Community Hospital in San Bernardino on October 16. We wish her well and hope that she will soon completely recuperate and return to her duties as Intermediate Clerk, feeling her old self again.

Tempus Fugit! May Kluchka, who has been with District Headquarters six months as Intermediate Steno-Clerk, has spent a week's vacation in San Francisco "My old home town." May was most enthusiastic about the progress in San Francisco in the way of construction of new homes and apartment houses. Never say "Frisco" to May; she is a native, and them's fightin' words.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

During the period of September 25 to October 25 there was a total of 43 fires in Riverside County, none of which was more than five acres.

The new addition to the barracks at San Jacinto Station is nearing completion, and work has been started on the temporary, prefabricated barracks building at the new Temecula Station site.

Truman Holland
State Forest Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The first phase of construction has begun on the Devore Station. The crews started October 24 to dig the foundations, but ran into a little trouble, it seems for every shovel full of dirt, a boulder was uncovered; the deeper the foundation, the bigger the boulders. But construction is moving right along.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

MINNEWAWA C.D.C. CAMP

For our major out-of-camp project we are continuing the reconstruction of Tecate Peak truck trail C.D.F. #31. Our number 2 crew has been working on this project approximately nine months and we anticipate another year's work before this road will be placed into good construction. We are resurfacing the road bed, installing a drainage system, cleaning out existing culverts, widening turns and constructing rock retaining walls where necessary. Also we have located a spring approximately 3 miles below the lookout and we have received Ranger Miller's approval to construct a reservoir and develop as much water as possible.

Our number 1 crew is at present working on the Valley View truck trail C.D.F. #20, installing a drainage system and doing general maintenance work.

Our number 3 crew has been working on the construction of the new lookout tower at Mt. Woodson; this crew consisting of three carpenters and two laborers. From all reports these men are doing very well.

Our in-camp carpenter shop has completed the construction of ten sink and dish cabinets for Deputy Metcalf's District. The five dish cabinets are at present enroute to his headquarters. We plan on storing the five sink cabinets at the Valley Center warehouse, San Diego County, pending arrangements for transportation North. We are now looking forward to the opportunity of constructing 30 mess tables and benches for other C.D.C. camps.

New bids have been submitted covering the drilling of a new water well for camp. We expect to receive the Service Agreement in the near future.

In conclusion we wish to state the Forestry Project Supervisor anticipates moving into his newly constructed home in Monterey Heights near La Mesa, in approximately three weeks. At this time Foreman Charles W. Compton will move into building T-319, now being occupied by the Project Supervisor.

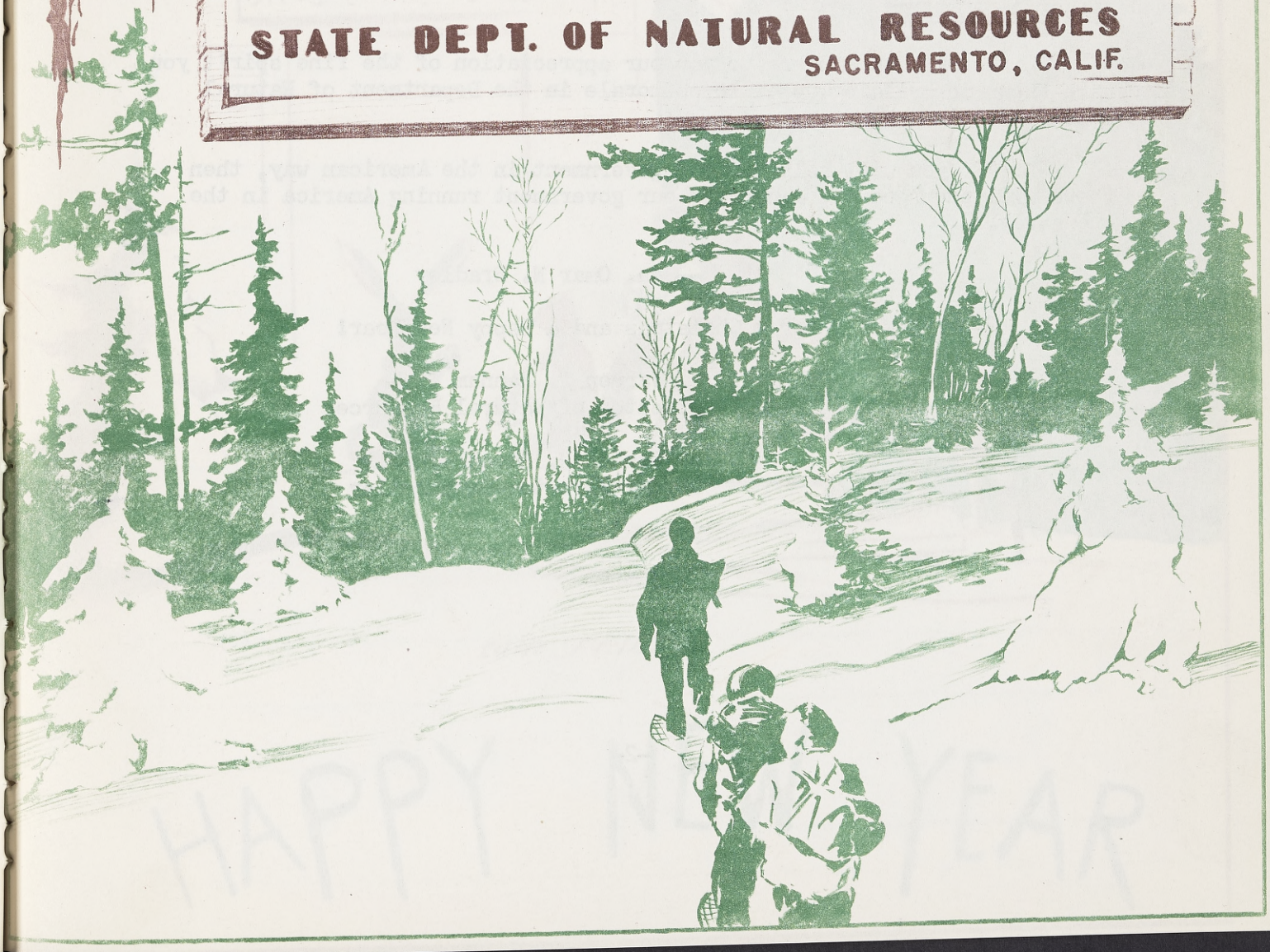
Stanley L. Moe
Project Supervisor Camp Minnewawa

NOVEMBER VOL 8 NO 11

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY:

As we approach another Christmas, I look back with a great deal of pride for a full year of accomplishment and service. We have all experienced successes and failures. A few have made the maximum sacrifice; to their families and friends go our deepest sympathies.

As we look ahead, we see many new problems and new opportunities to serve California, her people, and her resources.

To you all many thanks and appreciation.

To you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



P.S. A letter has just been received from Mr. Rosecrans, Chairman of the Board of Forestry. He is traveling in South America. He sends Best Wishes of the Season to all of the Division of Forestry gang.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

We wish to express to you our appreciation of the fine spirit you have shown in building up employee morale in the Department of Natural Resources this past year.

"If you will help run our government in the American way, then there will never be any danger of our government running America in the wrong way."

—Gen. Omar N. Bradley

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

s/ Warren T. Hannum
Director of Natural Resources

s/ Daniel H. Blood
Deputy Director-Comptroller



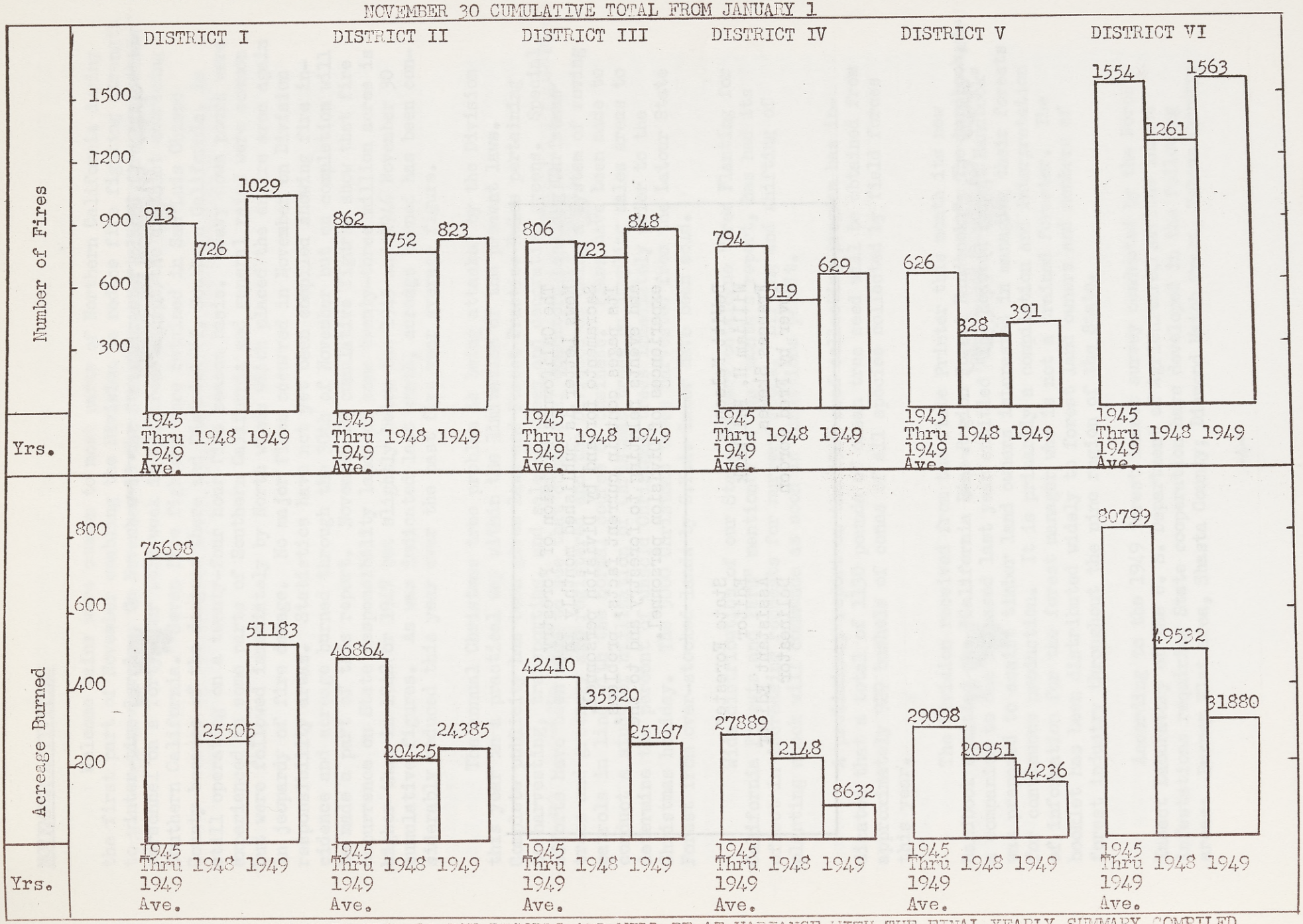

OUR FRIENDS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL FIGURES FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1949 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
NOVEMBER 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

---

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Welcome rains were common to most parts of Northern California during the first part of November enabling the Division to reduce fire fighting strength to winter-time levels. On November 10 the State Forester placed fire protection personnel on a forty-hour work week in all areas except the district embracing Southern California. Seven fire fighters were retained in San Luis Obispo County because of the dangers there and District VI, Southern California, is still operating on a twenty-four hour fire season basis. Heavy down pours were experienced in some parts of Southern California and general rains were common but were followed immediately by North winds which placed the entire area again in jeopardy of fire damage. No major fires occurred in November on Division responsibility areas. Statistics have not yet been compiled showing fire incidence and acreage burned through the 30th of November but on completion will be made a part of this report. November 20 cumulative figures show that fire occurrence on State responsibility lands of some twenty-three million acres is higher than in 1948 or 1947 but slightly below the 1945 and 1946 November 30 cumulative figures. As was indicated last month, acreage burned has been considerably reduced this year over the past five year average figure.

The annual Christmas tree problem is being attacked by the Division this year in a practical way within the limitation of the present laws. Complete publicity has been given laws and Forest Practice Rules pertaining to harvesting, transporting, and sale of trees and decorative greens. Special efforts have been made to see that commercial operators handling Christmas trees and greenery are registered and the Division is using a system of roving patrols in line with the normal course of business. Plans have been made to conduct a study of utilization of Christmas trees by sampling sales areas to determine the percent of unsold Christmas trees immediately prior to the Christmas holiday. The 5000 Christmas trees harvested from the Latour State Forest from over-stocked lands by C.Y.A. labor have been sold.

Wide distribution of our State Nursery catalogue "Tree Planting for California Forests and Farm" mentioned in last month's report, has had its effect in increasing requests for nursery stock. Lifting and shifting of planting stock will commence as soon as conditions permit.

A preliminary report on the 1949 seed collecting program has indicated that a total of 1130 pounds of clean tree seed will be obtained from approximately 929 bushels of cones of all species collected by field forces this year.

The Division received from the State Printer this month its new handbook entitled the "California Pine Region Forest Handbook." The handbook, a companion to one released last year entitled "The Redwood Forest Handbook" was prepared to assist timber land owners interested in managing their forests for continuous production. It is primarily a compilation and interpretation of information for the forest manager who is not a trained forester. The booklet has been distributed widely to forest land owners and members of forest industry throughout the pine region of the State.

According to the 1949 forest insect survey conducted by the Forest Insect Laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, serious insect infestations requiring State cooperation have developed in the following areas: Burney Flat area, Shasta County; Diamond Match Tract, Tehama County;

Bogg Mountain area, Lake County; near Bass Lake, Madera County; Fence Meadow area, Fresno County; certain areas of San Bernardino County and in Julian-Cuyamaca area in San Diego County. Investigations are being made at the present time to determine the extent of these infestations and the land ownership pattern involved so that State participation can be determined and cooperative agreements drafted in order that control work may proceed without delay.

Transaction #4 of the Jackson State Forest acquisition has been received and at present is being processed for payment. This parcel of some 15,677 acres will probably be the next to the last transaction of the purchase program. Personnel stationed on the Forest are presently preoccupied with slash disposal operations, acquiring information necessary for a management plan, and working with Division administrative personnel on the construction of a C.D.C. forestry work camp. It is planned that the inmates of this camp will be used to develop a branch nursery for redwood and Douglas fir production in reforestation work, on deficiently stock lands, on fire protection, and on thinning and pruning experiments.

Three members of the Division's technical staff attended a training school conducted by the University of California in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service at the Feather River Experimental Station in Plumas County. Instruction received related to forestry uses of aerial photographs.

A preliminary range improvement report for the calendar year 1949 was completed this month in time for use at the joint meeting of the California State Board of Forestry and the California Wool Growers held in San Francisco. The report shows that 298 land owners throughout the State actually conducted range improvement control burns on their lands during the permit season. A total of 91,764 acres were burned under permit which included 12,580 acres burned as a result of control burn escapes. Estimates show that approximately 20,000 acres were cleared by mechanical means in the State during the current year. This makes a grand total of 111,764 acres treated under the range improvement program. Mechanical equipment is being improved and developed to meet the requirement of land clearance and operators are becoming increasingly efficient in the use of machines to clear land with less disturbance to the soil. Some of the land cleared by mechanical means is being sown to grain crops though an increasing amount is being developed specifically for grazing land. A positive control of land by mechanical means is emphasized by the fact that approximately 10,000 acres of land will not be burned under permit. Some of the brush piles are burned during the winter but many ranchers leave the windrows in gullies or on the hillsides as erosion control measures. In some cases brush piles are left to provide escape cover for quail.

Land clearing was followed by reseeding on 30,732 acres, much of the seeding being accomplished by airplane and helicopter. The importance of seeding to increase forage production on range lands has been recognized in recent years. Forage species adapted to each area of the State have been developed and seed is now available.

Suitable seed bed preparation is the main problem encountered in reseeding cleared brush ranges. Loss of seeds to birds and rodents occurs when the seed is left uncovered. Recent test with yellow dye as a bird repellent and rodenticides to reduce rodent populations may increase effectiveness of broadcast seeding on cleared areas.

Responsibility for damage caused by control burn escapes continues to be a problem of great concern to land owners desiring to use fire as a land clearing tool. In general it appears that land owners are accepting the responsibility. This is demonstrated by the increased use of fire in a legal manner with landowners taking adequate precautions to prevent the escape of fire. More ranchers are availing themselves of insurance to cover risks involved in control activities. Escape acreage recorded tends to increase as more adequate reporting on control burns occurs. This is particularly true in areas where improvement values are low and escapes are regarded as range improvement burns by neighbors. The percentage of escape acres occurring is rather constant and comprises from 15 to 20% of the total acreage burned.

Chapter 1254, Statutes of 1949, provided $30,000 for two fire protection crews to be used for "standby" service on control burns. Two standby crews consisting of one foreman, one driver, and six fire fighters, one crew truck, and tools were activated on August 5 to be used during the months when control burning activity is at its peak. Considerable administrative work was involved in distributing the work of the crews throughout work areas. One crew worked in the North Coast area while the second operated in the Sierra and Northern California area. It was necessary at times to dispatch the standby crews long distances in order to adequately cover the control burning operations. The fact that control burning is largely a question of favorable weather and available manpower prevents the exact scheduling that would be desirable in such a project. Standby crews do not engage in the active spreading of fire but do take immediate action when it is evident that the fire will escape or has in fact escaped control.

The two crews serviced forty control burns during the period August 1 through October 18. Reports indicated that land owners serviced by the standby crews were well satisfied with the work provided. In a few cases misunderstanding as to the purpose of the crews arose insofar as the land owner believed that all burning activity would be carried on by the crews. Crews are for standby protection only and, after a thorough explanation of responsibilities involved operations usually met with complete cooperation.

Of considerable concern to the Division and to the lumber and recreational industries is the smoke problem created by control burning. Heavy smoke concentrations reduce considerably the effectiveness of the established lookout detection system. High value timber, range, watershed, and recreational land are endangered when it is not possible to obtain prompt and accurate reports on location of wild fires. It was necessary during the current year to supplement the lookout system by aircraft patrols when smoke from controlled burning reduced visibility.

In the construction field work concentrated during the month on six C.D.C. camps throughout the State. In addition District I virtually completed work on a five-bay equipment shed and gas and oil house at Healdsburg, Sonoma County, and bridges in District II on the West branch of the Feather River on Big Butte Creek and Battle Creek were in the process of reconstruction this month. Some 125 miles of telephone line on the Eastern side of Shasta County is being rehabilitated and rerouted. To be completed within the next three months are the Ranger residences in Tuolumne County, at Sonora; and at Sutter Hill in Amador County. Heavy construction work is underway on bridge repair on the Jefferson Creek Bridge and on the North Fork of the American River. In Fresno County the mess hall, barracks, and garage

have been completed at the Sand Creek site and garage completed at Murietta Station. A warehouse at Sanger is reported 40% complete. Construction is started on garages at Usona and Hornitos in Mariposa County. Madera and Merced Counties report that construction on garages at Raymond and Gustine are progressing according to schedule.

To expedite winter projects in District IV the C.Y.A. sub camp has been moved from Mountain Home to Mariposa to aid in the construction and maintenance of telephone lines, firebreaks, and roads during the winter months. The remodeling of barracks at Hollister in District V is well under way with foundation in place and framing started. A railroad flat car bridge near Olive Springs in District V was completed during the month except for the application of paint. The C.Y.A. Camp at Ben Lommond was doing maintenance work on the Summit-Felton telephone line in Santa Cruz County completing fencing work on the Spring Dell Range Experimental Plot in San Benito County and doing construction work on Penstock Road and completing bridges in the vicinity of Olive Springs.

The Devore fire station in San Bernardino County was under construction this month and work was progressing satisfactorily on the Mt. Woodson lookout tower.

Twelve four-wheel Dodge crew trucks have been completed and delivered to the Division by the State Metal Fabricators Inc. By December 20 we anticipate the delivery of ten GMC crew trucks and 20 Reo fire trucks should be completed and delivered to the Division by the first of February by this organization. Eighteen Ford stakeside trucks have been acquired and three have been assigned to each of the C.D.C. camps in our six Administrative Districts. Delivered also were six International dump trucks, one per camp. Assigned also to each camp and in operation are one D7 Caterpillar Tractor and one one-half ton pickup. Specifications were drafted this month for two four wheel crew trucks to be used in the range improvement program.

NELSON, STATE FORESTER, VICE PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of the Association of State Foresters held at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas October 3 to 6, State Forester DeWitt Nelson was elected Vice President of the organization. President is Joseph Caylor State Forester of Maryland and C. H. Coulter State Forester of Florida is the new Secretary-Treasurer. S. G. Fontanna of Michigan and George White of Missouri are members of the Executive Committee.

NELSON SHARES ANNUAL AWARDS OF CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

The California Conservation Council presented State Forester DeWitt Nelson with a certificate of special recognition and honor "for further conservation education and the wise use of California's great natural resources." Similarly honored were Charles J. Kraebel of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Arthur H. Blake, Director, Sierra Club; Dr. Jay D. Connor, Associate State Superintendent of Public Instruction; I. H. Cory, State President, Izaak Walton League; Dr. Carl D. Duncan, science head for San Jose State College; Francis P. Farquhar, Director, Sierra Club; Dr. Willard E. Goslin of Pasadena, President, American Association of School Administrators; Dr. Leo F. Hadsall, biology professor, Fresno State College; and Mrs. Duncan McDuffie, Chairman, Redwood Grove Committee, Garden Club of America.

The Council re-elected Miss Pearl Chase of Santa Barbara as President; Governor Earl Warren as Honorary Chairman of California Conservation Week (March 7-14, 1950); and General Warren Hannum, Director of the California Department of Natural Resources, as General Chairman of Conservation Week Committee.

INTERESTING FACTS FROM CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"Californians live in the most rapidly expanding section of the United States--and the world. This State is first in developed water power, first per capita in radios, automobiles (4,500,000), and cash farm income; spends more per capita on education; is first in fishing, motion pictures, mining of mercury, gold, and borax. With 7 percent of U. S. population, it has 14 percent of national construction, 20 percent of new residential construction, and nine percent of all retail sales (31 percent higher than the national per capita average).

The importance of California's population, now 10,665,000, is appreciated when translated into desires for goods, communications, and transportation. The net increase from 1940 to 1949 was 3,800,000, or 54 percent--the highest percentage population increase for any decade except the first. Thirty-two percent of our people are under 21; 38 percent from 21 to 44; 22 percent, 45-64; and 8 percent, 65 or over. Seventy percent are under 44. Our working force is relatively younger than for the rest of the nation, and that is important to future growth. Of each 100 additional persons since 1940, 75 went into cities and 25 into unincorporated areas. We can't expect an increase in the next ten years at the same rate as the last ten, barring depression or war. But by 1960 it is estimated our population will be 12 to 13½ million.

Today our total working force is 4,512,000. Actually there is less unemployment than in 1940. One of the greatest tasks of state and local chambers of commerce is to attract industry. A plant employing 150 persons, with an annual payroll of $400,000, supports 1000 people who require 33 retail stores, 22 schoolrooms, 393 homes, 320 automobiles, 24 professionals; results in spending $92,000 for food, $39,000 for apparel, $35,000 for services, $24,000 for furniture and appliances, $11,000 for entertainment, $8500 for drugs and sundries, and $17,500 for lumber and hardware.

Will new factories continue to provide more jobs in California, or will increasing costs for labor, fuel, and transportation, and growing congestion, slow us down? Probably the rate of growth in industries will be less rapid--perhaps not more than half that of the last decade. There are certain limiting factors. The drain on fuel, power, and water narrows our advantages.

Today the collective income of the people of California is $16,500,000,000, as against $5,606,000,000 in 1940. For two decades, the per capita income of Californians has been from 25 to 39 percent above the national average. There has been a faster rise in wages for the United States as a whole than for California. Thirty-two percent of our income comes from transportation and services, 16 percent from government payrolls, 14 percent from manufacturing payrolls, 8 percent from agriculture, and 30 percent, all other sources. Probably our income will expand to 21 or 22 billion by 1960, barring depression or war.

What may prevent achievement of these goals?

First is water--we need all we can get. Today we are only utilizing about 30 percent of the water supply of California.

In 1948-9, California taxpayers paid $4,528,780,000 in taxes as against $1,075,500,000 in 1940-1. The Federal government took just under three billion dollars; the State $886,000,000, and local government and districts, $687,000,000. There is not much chance of reducing the Federal take when the President demands increased revenues, 20 percent of which will come from California.

The Legislature adopted a State budget for the Fiscal Year 1948-9 of $1,080,000,000. Six years ago the budget was $522,000,000 and that was for two years. Seventeen years ago, figured annually, our budget was one-eighth of the present. Our population has increased 75 percent, but our State budget, 715 percent. The Governor can now control only one-fourth of the total budget, even with the most rigid economy. We need an organization study of the executive branch of State government. It is unnecessarily elaborate, disunited, and lacks clear definition. We cannot expect great economies as a result, but it could give us a dollar's worth of service for every dollar spent.

James Mussatti
General Manager, California State
Chamber of Commerce

FOREST PHOTOGRAMMETRY FIELD SCHOOL CONDUCTED IN CALIFORNIA

During the week of November 14 19, 1949, the School of Forestry of the University of California, in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, presented a special field school in forest photogrammetry for practicing foresters at the Feather River Experiment Station on the Plumas National Forest. The school was attended by 23 delegates from within the State, the largest number of which were from private industry. Federal and State agencies were also well represented.

The instruction covered a number of important forest uses of aerial photos including planimetric and topographic mapping, vegetation and timber type mapping, timber volume and growth estimation, construction of aerial photo mosaics, and uses of aerial photos in the fields of forest protection and forest recreation.

Mr. Robert N. Colwell, Assistant Professor of Forestry at the University of California, was in charge of the instruction and was assisted by Mr. Kenneth E. Bradshaw of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

It is the intention of the School of Forestry of the University of California to present such a field school for practicing foresters annually. The subject matter will be varied from year to year in accordance with demands for latest information in fields which are of greatest interest to practicing foresters throughout the State.

Rudy Grah
Forestry Extension Specialist

LOS PADRES HAS A CHAMPION TREE

A big cone spruce (Pseudotsuga macrocarpa) growing in the Pleito Campground Area, Mt. Pinos Ranger District of Los Padres, has been recognized by the American Forestry Association as the largest tree of this type on record. Measurements taken by Ranger Weisgerber and FCA Sheldon in April of this year at 4.5' above average ground level were: circumference 23' 11.5", diameter 7.75'. A letter to Ranger Weisgerber from the A.F.A. says in part, "According to our records, it is the largest Big Cone Spruce yet to be reported, and accordingly takes its place among the reigning champions of the country." (Los Padres)

Administrative Digest
November 23, 1949

LUMBER PRODUCTION

Forest Survey's compilation of 1948 lumber production, being done in cooperation with Western Pine and West Coast Lumbermen's Associations, is nearly complete. George Burks reports California lumber production will be almost 4 billion board feet -- another new high; with veneer and other products included the amount will be more than 4 billion. Final contacts are also being made for the national survey of wood used in manufacture.
(CF&RES STAFF NOTES, 11-14-49)

Administrative Digest
November 23, 1949

WOODS SAFETY

Working in the woods is a vigorous, man-sized job. But it can be a hazardous trade, too. Woodsmen have to work outdoors in all kinds of weather, get about over rough ground, use sharp tools and move heavy loads. The accident rate is the highest of any industry. Most accidents are caused by lack of skill, lack of training or plain carelessness. By always working safely, you can avoid injury or perhaps death to yourself or to one of your fellow workers.

WATCH WHERE YOUR'RE GOING. Be careful how and where you walk. Use the trail for going to and from the job. Keep a safe distance -- about 10 feet -- behind the man ahead of you. Step carefully where the footing is uncertain.

YOUR WOODS TOOLS. More than half of all woods accidents are axe cuts. Learn to use your axe skillfully and keep it in first class shape. Be sure the handle is straight, the head on tight and the bit sharp and reasonably thin. Always use a handle when sharpening with a file. Keep your fingers away from the face of a hand stone. Do not try to walk and chop at the same time. Set your feet firmly before you begin. Never leave your axe lying around. When not in use, put a guard on it.

Keep your hands a safe distance from the saw teeth and keep the blade away from your legs. When carrying a cross-cut saw, take off one handle, so it will not catch in the brush. Use a guard whenever the saw is to be carried any distance.

Power chain saws are heavy and dangerous. Carry them properly. Have three men on the saw crew. Do not start the motor until you are ready to saw, nor the chain until you are ready to make a cut and the horn is snug up against the work. If the chain needs to be cleared, throw out the clutch and stop the chain before attempting to do so. KEEP BOTH HANDS ON THE SAW whenever it is running.

FELLING TREES. When you have a tree to fell, figure out just where it should go and what, if anything, it might hit in coming down. Look over the tree and its neighbors for hanging limbs and broken tops — the well-named "widow-makers". Check on the butt to see if there be any defects, such as rotten spots or splits, that might cause trouble with the felling cuts or cause the tree to fall the wrong way. In chopping, throw the chips away from you. A flying chip can cause serious injury if it strikes someone in the face. Before you start the felling cut, make sure that you and your partner, with your tools, can get safely out of the way when the tree starts down.

Always go far enough away to be safe and always give plenty of warning to others. When the tree is about to fall, shout "TIMBER" loud enough to be heard by every nearby worker.

Don't wear ragged or loose clothing or torn gloves. Have them mended or throw them away. They might catch in something and cause an accident.

In hot weather, be sure and eat enough salt. Lack of it, due to loss in sweat, causes heat exhaustion. When sweating a lot, take salt tablets. Don't drink too much water at one time. Ten swallows is enough.

State of New York
Conservation Department

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### REMARKS FROM THE STATE FOREST NURSERY

From the appearances of the nursery, it would seem that the seed collection program this year was highly successful. Every available storage space has cones piled in it, and it looks as though it would take until next Spring to complete extraction and cleaning operations.

The seed extractor is now operating full blast, and even the skeptics have to admit that it removes seeds from cones. Credit for the success of the extractor is due "Steve" Stevenson and Marion (Willie) Wilson, the two mechanical "engineers", at the Davis Shops, even though the manufacturers label on the machine says, "Designed by Rube Goldberg, Built by Boob McNutt". Before the machine was finally completed all of the other mechanics at the shops had a hand in its construction in one way or another, and they too deserve credit.

When time permits, and extraction is completed, results of the collection program will be tabulated by counties, so that we will be able to have more complete information for future seed collections.

Ronny Adams
Forest Technician

AMADOR NEWS

Like most of the counties in the State fire business was terminated by rain in mid November. Compensatory time off and vacations nearly put us out of business otherwise but we managed to hold enough overhead to run a large C.Y.A. crew and as a result have managed to begin the foundation on the long anticipated Ranger's residence. We have built roads into the area and hauled considerable mine dump material which later will be covered with gravel. This will enable us to move material into the site even after heavy rains. We are landscaping as we go, so to speak.

The county experienced a bad structural fire during the month when the extraction plant of the American Lignite Company at Ione burned. There were over a hundred thousand gallons of solvent involved so we learned a lot about oil fires in a very short time. The fire was confined to the part of the plant containing the solvent however. It might be of interest to note that this plant makes Montan Wax which has various uses, among them the manufacture of phonograph records. Before the war this wax was only obtainable somewhere in Germany and since the war has only been obtainable from the plant at Ione. It is extracted from a low grade coal or lignite of which there are considerable deposits in the vicinity of Ione.

We hope our fire doesn't put the juke box business too far out of joint. One never knowshow far reaching something can be.

G. C. Phibbs, Ranger

NEWS FROM TUOLUMNE COUNTY

The winter project has changed the work from fire prevention and fire suppression to blue print reading and using a hammer and saw. The two new residences, to be, at the County Headquarters in Sonora, are starting to take shape. We are in a hurry to get the roof on so we can work inside on those rainy winter days. We're all wondering what the rains will do to Associate Ranger Bert Harris and his new, 'already too short in the legs', carpenters overalls!!!

The office is getting a new look also. A remodeling process is to take place inside the present building, with a new entrance and another office room already under construction.

Congratulations to Assistant Ranger and Mrs. Stewart L. Sinclair, who are the parents of a fine boy, David Gale, born October 19th, weighing seven pounds and six ounces. Mrs. Sinclair, formerly Ann Wilsey, was our Clerk last year.

Mr . Harry Hall, our Dispatcher, has resigned due to his health, and has been replaced by Eugene M. Peterson. Peterson formerly worked for the U. S. Forest Service, Cleveland National Forest.

After a very busy summer of fighting fires, the Tuolumne C.D.F. 'Gang' held their annual "End of Fire Season" party on November 12th. Division personnel and guests enjoyed a chicken and raviola dinner, dancing, and entertainment.

Eugene M. Peterson, Dispatcher

FRESNO COUNTY

Foreman & Mrs. Gerald L. McCarty are the proud parents of a new baby girl. Kathleen will be delighted to receive guests at her father's new Pleasant Valley Fire Station in the Westside Fire District.

A new six stall garage and a large warehouse have been completed at the new Fresno County Headquarters site near Sanger.

Joaquin Murietta and Hurley Fire Control Stations also have new garages. The Sand Creek station has been moved several hundred yards from its old location and a new 20' x 48' portable barracks and garage have been built. It is ready for occupancy next fire season.

A new two stall addition to the Blasingame garage has been started and will be completed by the first of the year.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

DIVISION OF FORESTRY GOES TO SEA

On November 1, 1949, the State Division of Forestry entered into agreement with the Monterey County Board of Supervisors to provide fire protection for the Moss Landing Harbor and Fishing fleet. The Moss Landing Harbor, located about midway between Watsonville and the town of Monterey, is becoming one of the most important Fishing Fleet Harbors on the Coast.

There are at present between 700 and 800 craft now using this harbor. As many as 487 fishing and pleasure craft have docked at this harbor at one time, thereby creating a serious fire hazard. Recognizing this hazard, the Harbor Commissioners prevailed upon the County Board of Supervisors for aid, insofar as there are at present no fire protection facilities available.

Upon the approval of the State Forester, a State Fire truck was established at Moss Landing and one of our Skid Units with a 500 GPM Hale Pump was located on an LSP Barge.

This movement has already proved its worth. On November 14, 1949, gasoline exploded on a fishing craft where 1,000 gallons of gasoline were stored. The craft had just cleared the fleet and was putting out to sea. Our fire barge had three hoses playing on the fire within five minutes, quickly extinguishing the fire. The apparatus is manned by Division of Forestry personnel. The crew are all volunteers.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger - Monterey County

CATTLEMEN'S RESOLUTION RECOGNIZED COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE

Received this month was the following letter from the Monterey Cattlemen's Association:

"Dear Mr. Nelson:

"At our annual fall meeting a resolution of commendation was passed for the good work the local State Forest Ranger, Mr. W. C. Austin and his

aides in charge of Monterey County, have done and for their outstnading co-operation with ranchers on the Range Improvement Program and fires.

"This association feels fortunate in having this state department interested in the cattlemen's problems.

"Therefore, we wish to aid and cooperate with you in any of your future programs.

"Yours very truly,

s/William H. Smart-President

s/ James V. Pettitt-Secretary."

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

We welcome back Lou Taurman, Assistant Construction Inspector, after an absence of two months. Lou is feeling "tops" again and is quite busy with post war projects and the new Oak Glen CDC Camp.

"Toni" Thalmann, who operated the switchboard at District VI Headquarters during the fire season, has completed her appointment. We shall all miss Toni's charming personality, which never varied even under pressure.

Senior Account Clerk Mel Worrel and his wife, Teedy, spent their vacation in Grand Canyon. Mel relates that a huge buck ate out of his hand and while Old Buck ate Mel counted 16 antlers.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Work is progressing rapidly on the new Temecula Fire Control Station. A temporary prefabricated building (in sections) has been trucked to the site and work in assembling the building is about one-half completed. A well has been drilled and a pump has been installed. Electric service will be hooked up shortly.

An addition to the barracks building is almost completed at the San Jacinto Fire Control Station, needing only a few more days work to complete the job. This addition will facilitate adequate housing for station personnel and will overcome the somewhat crowded conditions which have existed at the station.

Two hundred yards of gravel have been hauled into the yard at Perris warehouse. The yard has been filled and levelled preparatory to paving it with oil mix. The oiling job will be accomplished by a private contractor. Bids have been submitted for final approval.

Trees are being trimmed and general cleanup of the grounds is in progress at Riverside County Headquarters (Perris).

Sunnymead Fire Control Station (Schedule A) has been completed. This station includes crew quarters, garage, and residence. Work is nearing completion on similar stations at Pedley and Lakeland Village, however, no residence is being constructed at these stations at the present time.

A residence is contemplated at each station next year. The crew quarters and garage at each station will be completed within three weeks.

Truman Holland, State Forest Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

It looks as though San Diego County is going to have fire weather all year around. The recent storm ending November 10th thoroughly drenched the entire country-side with nearly 4" of rain. Normally this would be cause for relief from worry of fires for a few days but not so in this district. Late afternoon on November 11th northeast winds began to blow and at Boucher Lookout, where 4.80" of rain was recorded, the weather at 8:00 A.M. was -- Temperature 53 - Humidity 39 - Wind Northeast 20, and Fuel Moisture 8.5. Noon readings were 59, 34, E 12 and 7.5 respectively. Numerous grass fires were responded to by La Mesa crews and one structure in the Julian area.

With visibilities of 15 plus all lookouts were busy spotting and reporting smokes from all sections of the county. With rapidly changing conditions such as these, it is apparent that the Division will be busy this winter on fires as well as projects.

E. S. Miller, State Forest Ranger

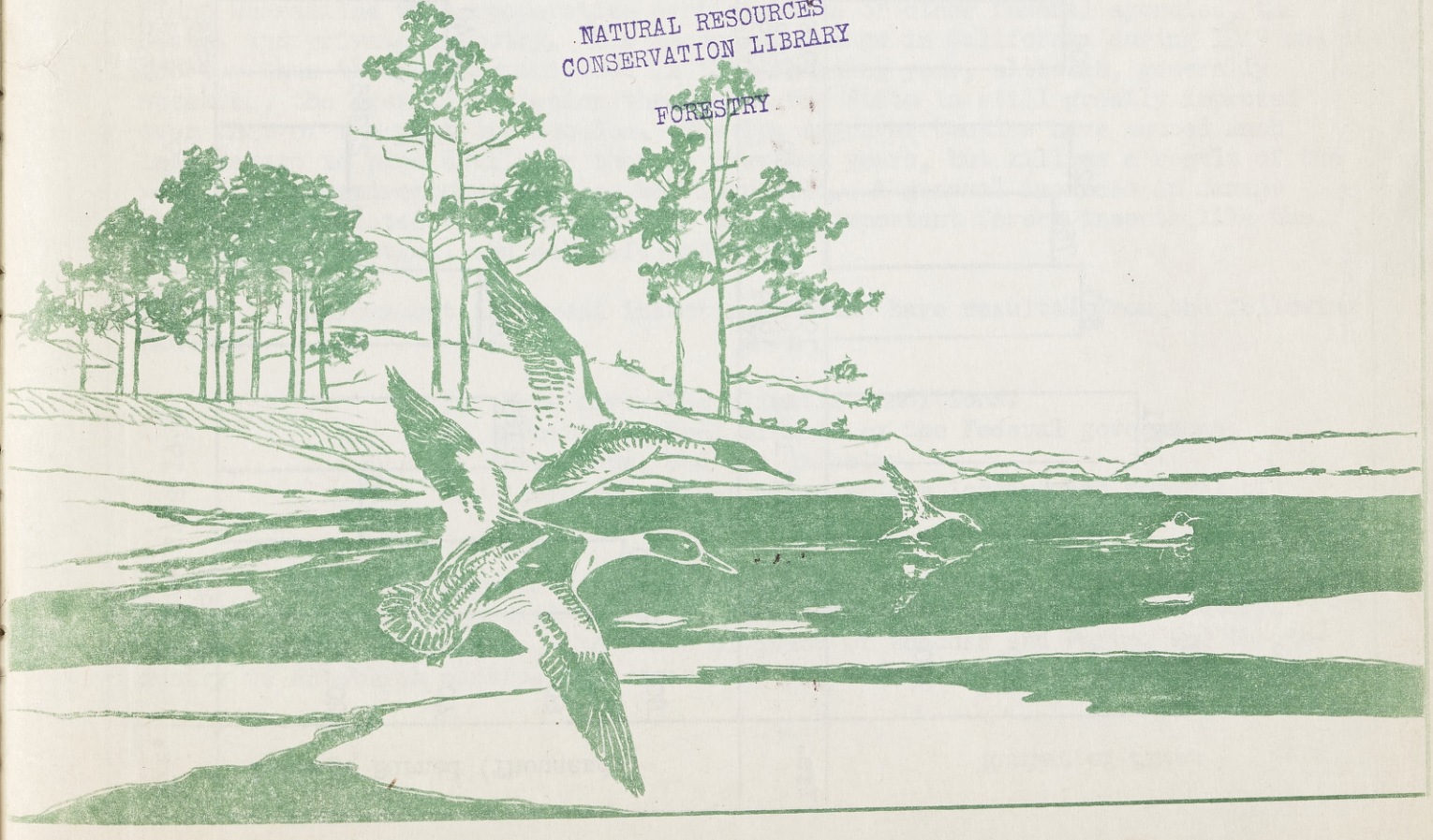
DECEMBER - VOL 8 - NO 12

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

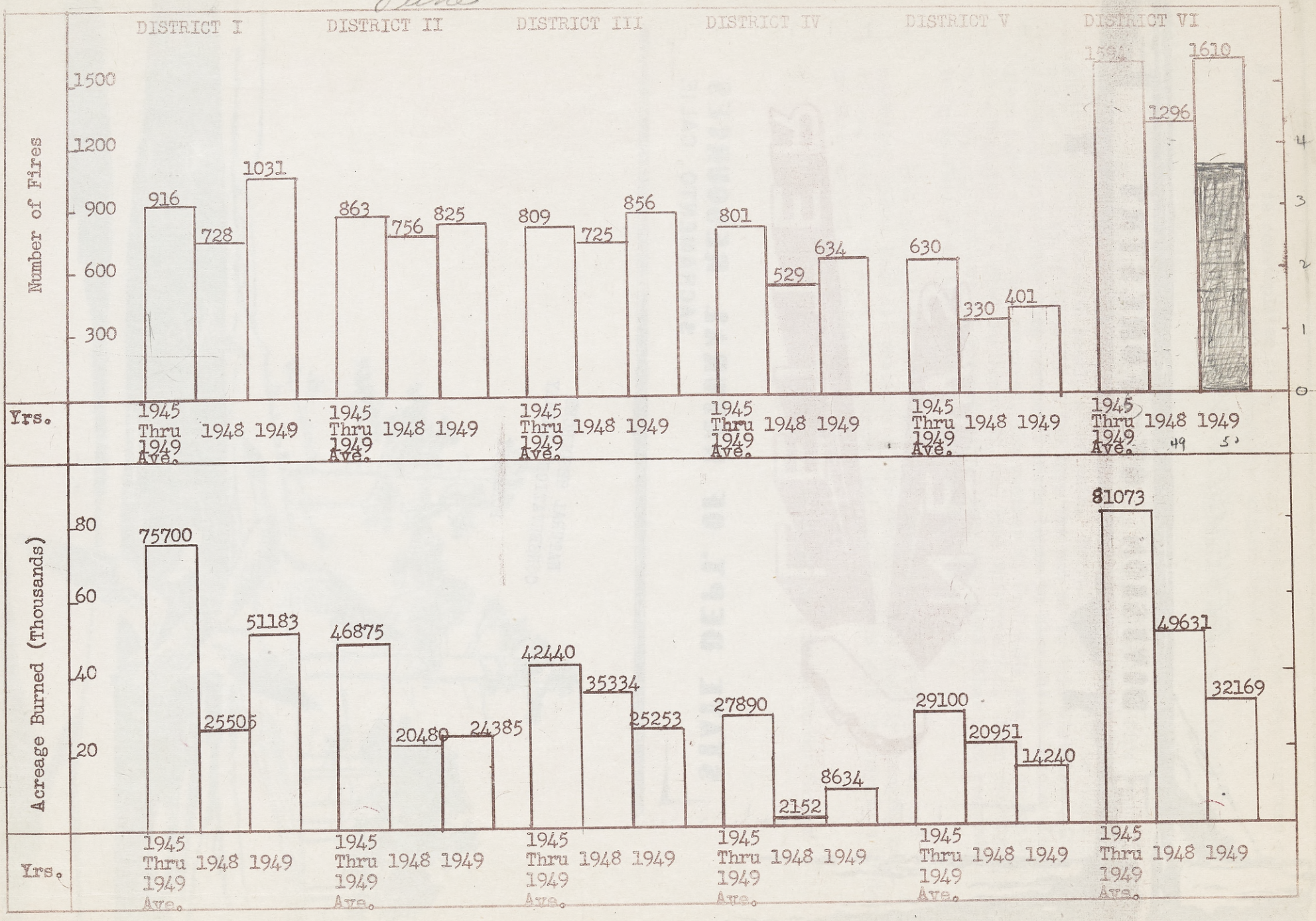
NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY
FORESTRY



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-49 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY

DECEMBER 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1

June




*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS. November issue acreage burned 1948, District IV, shown incorrectly on chart. Corrected this month.

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

General rain in December with snow at the higher elevations brought a definite end to the 1949 fire season. Fire crews were retained in Southern California, however, until the 15th of the month when general rainfall was sufficient to reduce fire crew strength to winter levels.

By comparison the 140,000 acres of forest, watershed, and range land burned over in the area protected by the Division of Forestry during 1949 proved to be one of the least damaging years on record. The average acreage burned for the last five years has been well over 250,000 acres a year. 1949 summer fire weather was more extreme and the season more prolonged than usual, but strong North winds common in September and October failed to materialize this year. This decisive factor plus new equipment, better communication facilities, a higher degree of fire fighting efficiency and great public concern for fire contributed to the success of the summer season.

Actual measurement of fire prevention effort is theoretically impossible. Practically speaking 1949 efforts come close to being measurable. The factual analysis of fire incidence from April thru October of 1949 show that 100 less man-caused fires started on the 23,000,000 acres of primary watershed and timber lands protected by the Division than the average yearly incidence since 1945, 100 less fires despite the fact that there was greater use of the mountain lands by the people and fire hazards much more critical than the average year. From these facts it seems apparent that by maintaining the level of our fire prevention actions in certain fields and strengthening others there is every opportunity to hold fire incidence to a minimum.

Where fire prevention and control are the major protection activities of the Division of Forestry in the long dry summer season, protection of our forest resources from insect epidemics become a major concern during the winter and spring months. A picture of forest insect conditions for this season was obtained by the Forest Insect Laboratory of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine with cooperative participation of other federal agencies, the State, and private industry. The amount of damage in California during 1949 was greater than the loss experienced in the preceding year, although, generally speaking, the overall situation throughout the State is still greatly improved over that of the past two decades. The Ips engraver beetles have caused much less damage to pine this year than in previous years, but kill as a result of the work of the Dendroctonus beetles has increased. A general increase in damage has also been noted from the activity of less important forest insects like the fir engraver beetles, and oak defoliators.

Improvement in forest insect conditions have resulted from the following factors:

1. More favorable climatic conditions.
2. Greater control efforts by the Federal government, the State, and the industry.
3. Increased amount of selective logging and removal of high risk trees.

Plans and negotiations are underway at the present for the Division of Forestry in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, the Insect Laboratory, various county governments, the State Division of Beaches and Parks, and the industry to establish control this season in ten widely scattered epidemic areas,

extending all the way from the Laguna Mountains in San Diego County to the Burney Flat area in Shasta County.

A much more complete picture of the insect situation will be presented in a report prepared by the Insect Laboratory that will soon be published and distributed by the Division. The report will be so planned that it can be repeated annually in a similar form. The purpose will be to call the attention of all land management agencies, both public and private, to the current conditions so that proper treatment measures can be taken.

According to a survey made by the Division immediately prior to Christmas, 19 percent of the Christmas trees offered for sale on a Statewide basis remained unsold. This estimate was based on a sample of some 675 lots throughout California which included a volume of 256,758 trees. Last year the utilization was found to be 89% as compared with 81% for this year which indicates that the waste in Christmas trees was 8% more this year than last year.

The Sacramento office recently compiled all the 1948 forest commodity production figures submitted by timber operators in applying for 1949 registration. This analysis indicates that some 3,983,213,000 board feet of timber log scale was removed from forest lands in California during 1948. This production exceeded all previous years and continues the upward trend which has been evident for several years. Copies of this analysis have been distributed to the field and other interested parties.

Personnel on the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County were engaged in a slash reduction work on the Berry Gulch operation of the Caspar Lumber Company this month. The company, by agreement, pays the State for burning logging slash on areas being acquired for the State forest. Five experimental thinning plots were established on the State forest. They have been surveyed, staked, and permanently marked. Experimental thinning has been started on four of the plots. Considerable interest in this work has been displayed by the Masonite Corp. and the Pacific Lumber Company.

More than 50 new farm forestry contacts were made by the Division's Forest Advisors. During December advisory service related to the management of timber lands, marketing problems, obtaining stock for plantations, and other information on forest planting and information of a general character.

The Sacramento Administration Fiscal Section completed this month the 1950-51 capital outlay budget. All 50-51 budgets are now in the hands of the Department of Finance. The Fiscal Section has completed the processing of orders for the following list of equipment for the current fiscal year:

11 sedans
21 pickups
5 panels
14 stakesides
14 fire trucks
37 crew trucks
7 bulldozers
4 tractor transports

It is hoped that in a very short period of time the construction program will start on 14 fire trucks and 35 crew trucks all a part of the current fiscal year budget.

Throughout the State work was hampered somewhat this month because of vacation and compensating time off requirements of many employees. Progress was steady, however, in winter construction work principally with the Department of Correction's Forestry Work Camps. Details of this construction effort are quite complex but are being ironed out rapidly. A suitable site has finally been obtained in District III in the Mother Lode area where the camp is to be erected in Placer County. Every effort is being made in each of the six districts to complete permanent installations for the camps by our deadline of July 1, 1950.

The headquarter warehouse foundation has been completed this month at Middletown, Lake County, and plans have been completed for the enlarging of the Ft. Bragg Assistant Ranger Office in Mendocino County for joint use by the Assistant Ranger and by Jackson State Forest personnel. Crews are now ready to start remodeling of this building and the construction of a garage at Mendocino Woodlands on the Jackson State Forest.

In Nevada County the garage at the Higgins Corner suppression station was completed as was the stripping and redecking of the Jefferson Creek Bridge in Placer County. Work continued on an equipment storage building at Marysville headquarters in Yuba County and despite some delays caused by the freezing weather work continued on new garages at Murphys and West Point stations in Calaveras County. Frame work and shingling has been accomplished on a dispatcher residence in Tuolumne County where the office addition to headquarters has been tied into the main office building.

Also completed this month was the garage at the new Fresno County headquarters and every effort is being made to obtain all necessary materials for winter-spring construction work at Sanger, Squaw Valley, and Blasingame.

The barracks building at Hollister in District V is practically complete and should be ready for occupancy by the first of February. C.Y.A. crews in this district were busy during the month placing culverts on the Penstock and Little Basin roads in Santa Cruz County and burning of cut brush along these roads.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION, ECA No. 748

"WASHINGTON, August 1 - Reforestation and vocational training programs will be financed in Italy with 10 billion lire (about $17,390,000) from the Italian counterpart fund, the Economic Cooperation Administration announced today in Washington and Rome.

Five billion lire (about $8,695,000) will be spent to help restore Italy's war-damaged forests, to increase timber and timber bi-products production, and to establish forestry training courses, ECA said. Under the program, 60,000 jobless Italians will be trained and employed in 740 reforestation centers throughout the country."

News Letter to State Foresters
January 3, 1950

IT'S SKI-TIME IN CALIFORNIA

It's ski-time in California and indications are that more skiers will be tracking the white mountain slopes this season than ever before.

"California region led all other regions of the U.S. Forest Service last year, with a total of 580,000 visits to ski areas on national forest, " says

Millard M. Barnum, Assistant Regional Forester at San Francisco. "But that was just a fair season, because of unfavorable mid-winter weather. We expect California will maintain its leading position this year, and go on to exceed the previous best record — the 650,000 visits in the prewar ski season of 1940-41."

Two new ski areas and two new ski-lifts at existing areas are added attrac-tions this winter. The new areas are Squaw Valley, near Lake Tahoe and partly within the Tahoe National Forest, offering a double-chair lift 8,000 feet long and a new lodge; and Big Bear, at Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino National Forest, offering a chair lift, 3016 feet long.

The other new lifts are a T-bar lift 1,350 feet long at Mile-High Resort near Long Barn in the Stanislaus National Forest; and a new chair lift 5,130 feet long at Snow Valley, 30 miles from San Bernardino in the San Bernardino National Forest.

California has 75 winter sports areas. According to Mr. Barnum, 40 of them are in National Forests, 33 are on private land within National-Forest boundaries, and two are in National Parks. (Condensed from R-5 news release).

Administrative Digest
December 14, 1949

REDWOOD GROUP ANNOUNCES TREE FARM COMMITTEE

President O. R. Johnson of the California Redwood Association has announced appointees to the association's Tree Farm committee.

Chairman is Gordon J. Manary, Resident Manager, Pacific Lumber Company. Other members are Waldron L. Hyatt, Logging Superintendent, Hammon Lumber Company; C. Russell Johnson, Executive Vice President, Union Lumber Company; Howard A. Libbey, President and Manager, Arcata Redwood Company; Emanuel Fritz, Consulting Forester for the Association; and John R. Freeman of the Association's staff.

Forestry Digest
December, 1949

SHASTA FORESTS COMPANY'S FIRST TREE FARM UNIT GETS WESTERN PINE CERTIFICATE

The Shasta Forests Company, Redding, California, has received Western Pine certification of its first Tree Farm, a 50,680-acre tract located in Shasta County. It will be known as the T. B. Walker Tree Farm, in honor of the memory of the noted lumberman who set up the Walker forest properties in Northern California a half century ago.

The new Tree Farm and other areas under the same management are slated to become the largest private, strictly forest-management business in the nation, being part of several hundred thousand acres of timberlands managed by Shafco in seven California counties.

Forestry Digest
December, 1949

GIANT LOG WHITE PINES

The greatest Ponderosa pine on record—350 years old and 100 inches in diameter at breast height—has been felled for commercial purposes by the Blagan

Lumber Company. The tree was 229 feet high.

This announcement was made by A. W. Herbert, Forester for Blagen and for the Calaveras Land and Timber Company after checking with forestry officials on the size of the giant felled by S.C. Linebaugh's crew recently.

Sugar pines may come larger, but the only Ponderosa pine ever felled which came near this giant is one 85 inches in diameter at breast height and containing 35,000 board feet, which was felled by Associated Lumber & Box Company near West Point.

The 13 huge logs, each 16 feet long, which were cut out of the tree below the 17-inch diameter line at the top, totaled 38,160 board feet. Rings counted at the top of the first log placed the age of the tree at 350 years.

After 350 years, the tree was sound as the proverbial giant, showing only a few heart checks. It was logged on the South Fork watershed, about two miles east of Buck Ranch, involving a 15-mile haul to the mill.

Massiveness of the giant is shown by the fact that two 32-foot sections, later cut into 16-foot logs, weighed 55 tons each.

The American Eagle
December, 1949

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### AMADOR NEWS

After a delay due to a change in the floor plans construction has now begun on the Ranger's residence at Sutter Hill. At this writing the pouring of the concrete forms was subject only to weather conditions, which were slightly frigid.

Our mighty hunters continue to bring home the bacon! Braving the sub-freezing weather were Ranger George Phibbs, CYA Project Supervisor Oliver Huberty, Foreman Norman Dal Porto, and Lookout Ray Cuslidge. They knocked down some handsome geese in the (censored) area.

Recent additions to our permanent ranks here are Foreman Dal Porto and Forest Fire Truck Driver Herbert Harreld, who completed their probationary period late in '49. "Smokey" Harreld is our County standby driver this winter and was at our Dew Drop station last summer.

A welcome treat which also helped out our meal cost a little was a turkey donated by FEO Johnny Waterman shortly before Christmas. Considerable praise was heaped upon him for his "raising" such a delectable and sizeable bird in such a short period of time.

In a more serious vein, we have just read Special Interest Bulletin No. 284 disseminated by the National Board of Fire Underwriters and recommend it as a check on our "good housekeeping" methods. The bulletin is titled Fire Station Hazards and sets forth good and bad practices incident to the occupancy of fire stations.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

HOT NEW YEARS CELEBRATION

Foreman Jack Odgers was celebrating the New Year in the town of Grass Valley this year when at 12:03 A.M. on New Years morning a fire broke out close to where he happened to be. The fire gained headway quickly and looked as if a big portion of the town would be wiped out. Good judgement immediately told veteran Foreman Jack Odgers that the local city department would have more than they could handle. So he immediately reported the fire to the Nevada City C.D.F. station. The Schedule "A" driver was dispatched with a truck and then Odgers still realizing the potentialities of the fire, came personally to Nevada City station and took a second truck to the fire.

With the work of the Grass Valley City Fire Department, the Nevada City Fire Department, and the C.D.F. the fire was confined to four buildings. A major calamity nipped in the bud, only because of quick thinking and action by such men as Odgers, despite the party clothes, freezing weather, light dress, attractive party and the fact that the fire was not in a C.D.F. zone of responsibility.

Such action beyond the line of duty is what makes us all proud of the C.D.F.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

COMMENDATION BY CITY COUNCIL GRASS VALLEY

Following is a copy of a letter received by District III office from the Grass Valley City Council:

"The City Council of the City of Grass Valley takes this means of extending to you their sincerest thanks and appreciation for the prompt response of your fire fighting equipment last Sunday morning, January 1st.

"For a time it seemed as though our business district was threatened with a fire that appeared to be almost beyond control. Your fire fighting equipment and personnel were promptly on hand to extend their every assistance in the emergency. We wish to assure you that the people of Grass Valley were genuinely grateful for your response and for your standing by to help if necessary.

"The City Council of Grass Valley wishes at this time to reaffirm their pledge of cooperation with your department if and when at any time we can be of help and assistance to you.

We remain
Most gratefully yours,

s/ Gilbert Cramer, Mayor
s/ Leslie J. Cicogni
s/ Arnold S. Thorsen, Councilmen"

RAIL FENCE ADDS TO TWAIN HART STATION

This last fire season showed a new project completed at Twain Harte Station. In between fire suppression work we completely fenced in the C.D.F.

grounds at Twain Harte. This is a three rail fence constructed without nails of pine rails, 8 foot- 6 inches long and cedar posts, 7 foot in length.

This project was started during the 1948 fire season. At that time all the posts and rails were peeled. This season the posts were drilled for the rails, and the rails were shaped for the holes drilled. The top hole in the post is two inches in diameter. The center rail has an oblong hole made by drilling two 1-5/8" holes and cleaning out the section between the holes. The bottom rail has an oblong hole drilled with two 2" diameter holes. The posts and rails were treated with a 5% solution of pentachlorophenol and diesel oil.

We are very proud of this project. It is open to inspection from State Forester on down. We would appreciate anyone who has a chance to come and look the project over.

Clarke B. Clayton, Foreman
Twain Harte Station.

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

Placer County has been conspicuous by its absence from recent editions of the News Letter mainly because of lack of time to devote to writing due to the press of other business. However, we do enjoy reading about what goes on in other parts of the State and will make an honest effort to keep up on our share in the future.

Probably the main single factor contributing to our late hours and lack of time for other duties has been the long search for a suitable site for the CDC camp. Many suitable sites have been found but adverse local sentiment to the establishment of the camp has made it necessary to look elsewhere. Many suggested sites were eliminated because of remoteness, lack of level ground or lack of utilities. A rapidly growing population in the rural areas makes it difficult to find a suitable location that is not too near a home. Several public meetings have been held to discuss the pros and cons (no pun intended!!) of the program with the people, but at this writing a definite site has not been selected although one is "cooking" in the Meadow Vista district.

Now that the fire season definitely is over we are safe in saying that 1949 has been one of the most successful years in history. According to our figures the area burned in all zones was 672.2, including a post-season fire of 40 acres in slash. Most outstanding was the reduction of both fires and acreage from railroad operations. There were only 7 fires from all causes attributable to railroading. These 7 fires burned 10.7 acres and did damage estimated at $9.00. These figures are but a small percentage of those of previous years and are indicative of the value of a concentrated hazard reduction program.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM KINGS COUNTY

Kings County continued to have its regular share of building and equipment fires during the month of December, but not one single grass or trash fire during the month.

James Mote, Firetruck Driver was transferred from Headquarters to Kettleman City Station to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Elmo Wiles, Firetruck Driver. Mr. Wiles had been employed by the county for the past ten years, first as Chief of Westside Fire District, and as Firetruck Driver after the District became a part of county-wide fire control.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

ED GARTHWAITE, MADERA FARM ADVISOR, DIES

A large number of Division employees will concur with our deep and sincere regret by the passing of Ed. Garthwaite, County Farm Advisor for Madera County. Mr. Garthwaite was very interested and active in the brush removal by means of control burns. The great advancement toward a working program on control burning in Madera County should be credited to Mr. Garthwaite. This county and the California Extension Service have lost a very active and conscientious man.

Arthur Moberg
State Forest Ranger

PERSONNEL CHANGE IN FRESNO COUNTY

Fresno County practically shut down during the month of December because of vacations, however, everyone is back on the job now and working full blast.

Charlie Carlson, Fresno County dispatcher for the past year has been transferred to District III to work on the Range Improvement Program. Chuck's transfer took place in December. Lots of luck in the new job, Chuck.

A welcome addition to the Fresno County Dispatching staff is Howard Tucker. Howard, a recent transfer from Monterey County Headquarters, is to take over the schedule "B" dispatching here in Fresno.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

CARS AND CARPENTERS

It seems as though the trend in District IV is to maneuver around for a new or different car. It all started off with Ranger Bengard winning a new Plymouth Sedan. As you possibly remember, Deputy Metcalf drove a new Dodge out from Chicago; however, more about Metcalf later. Ranger Moberg wrecked his old Chevrolet Sedan and ended up purchasing a new Plymouth Sedan. Assistant Ranger Higgins, not to be outdone, made a dicker with Rafferty for a Packard Sedan that Rafferty got on another dicker. Rafferty then made a trade with Higgin's old Ford Pickup on a big Chrysler Town and Country. Deputy Metcalf, not to be outdone by Rafferty, traded his new Dodge for a Packard Sedan with a lot of cord wood around it. Rafferty claims his Chrysler has more cord wood than Metcalf's Packard. Both say there was no extra charge for the cord wood.

As for myself, I am still driving my old 1938 Olds with 110,000 miles on it; however, there is a standing invitation to any would be carpenter of the

Forestry to drop by 5023 Tyler Street in Fresno and help me finish construction on my house.

Jerry Faas
Radio Technician

CANAL SERVES DUAL PURPOSE

With the construction of the Delta-Mendota Canal well under way, Western Merced County now has a much needed Super Fireguard. The Canal itself is approximately 100 feet wide, with another 100 feet of clear right of way, making a neat 200 feet guard.

The route of the canal here eliminates the probability of any county fires spreading to the State responsibility zone. In recent years a number of fires have started along the rolling foothill areas in grain, usually from harvesters, and in a very short time burned into the hills and Zone two, assisted, of course, by the usual westside winds. At least now, a fire starting east of the canal can be confined to truck country. However, the only places trucks will be able to fill up with water from the canal is at farm outlets, farm bridges and sometimes at drainage inlets. This is due to the forty foot lift from the water to the road surface.

One of the largest of the machines working on the canal is the Bucyus Monighan dragline. With a 15 cu. yd. bite of over twenty two tons of earth, this mammoth machine hungerly eats its way through cuts that have been made as deep as seventy five feet. Its one hundred and sixty five foot boom truly has a boarding house reach. Too heavy for ordinary tracks the machine literally walks on two eccentric operated feet.

For the community of Los Banos, where the Heinman Milker and the Delavel cream separator is referred to as machinery, this is really big stuff.

Joe Griggs
Assistant Ranger

MADERA PROJECT WORK

Madera County welcomes foreman Worley Dixon who is assigned to this county. Worley was recently attached to District IV Headquarters Warehouse staff.

The winter work projects are progressing as scheduled, the majority of the trucktrails have been winterized for the normal rains, we hope!

The Shannon CDF Road, Madera No. 14, is complete by the combined efforts of CDF and CYA labor. The main engineering problem was the construction of a concrete apron across the Fresno River which was anchored to the solid granite river bed.

The Millerton Project, CDF road Madera No. 22, is receiving daily attention by means of two dozers, compressor unit, pull grader and a full crew of CYA boys. This road will be of great importance and future use by the Division in regard to Fire control and Fire Prevention. This truck trail is parallel to the Millerton Lake Recreation area which is yearly visited by a large number of people, primarily the attraction being Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River.

R.J. Moran
Associate State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY NEWS

The bid has been let to construct the Strathmore Fire Station to J. Andy Rogers of Porterville for $14,892.00. Construction will consist of a three bay station with quarters for personnel to be made of baselite brick.

Tulare County now finds that as of January 1, 1950, for the first time in approximately ten years, all positions of various classifications are filled by civil service personnel. We now find that in the very near future sixty reports of performance will be submitted covering all permanent personnel working in this county.

Acquisition of the Fountain Springs Fire Station Assistant Ranger's residence has been completed and Assistant Ranger Marvan Ewing and family are now comfortably installed.

The coveted trophy for the boxing championship now rests at the Hammond CYA Spike Camp. In a series of bouts between Mt. Home, Ben Lomond, Coarsegold and Hammond held at St. John's Auditorium in Fresno, through the courtesy of Mike Musto, the trophy was won. Outstanding men included Ries, Elliott, Flores, and Stark not to mention many others.

Volleyball, basketball and track teams are now being organized at Hammond CYA and competition is now in progress between Hammond and Lindsay and Exeter High Schools and many other athletic groups in this area.

During the last few weeks a program of lamp making has been in progress at the Hammond CYA Spike Camp as an after hours hobby. The boys have been making lamps from manzanita burls under the direction of Mr. Dale Barkley, Supervisor in Charge. Original assistance was also rendered by the Redwood Shop in Three Rivers, however, the camp now has most of its own equipment. Work consists of sanding burls, varnishing and drilling holes and wiring, which to date has been producing a commercial product. Recently wards Sentano, Stark, Ries, and Elliott received an outing in Sacramento as a reward for completing outstanding lamps. Lamps have been presented to several CYA officials and Governor Warren has requested that one be prepared for his use after seeing them on display in Sacramento. The newest lamp project consists of glazing and wiring long neck bottles after preparing ballast. This project should prove quite interesting as it arises from its infancy.

"Art" Averill and Garland Cherry, FFF and FFD respectively, long time employees at Hammond, are listed as being the most popular among the wards at that station.

Wm. Pennington
State Forest Ranger

HAPPENINGS IN DISTRICT VI

Near the end of December, District VI was honored by visitors from the North. Spending a portion of their holiday in this vicinity were Mr. Pomponio, Operations Officer; Mr. Ennis, Engineer, Deputy Peterson of Sacramento, Dispatcher Tuelene of District V Headquarters, Deputy State Forester Dunow, Assistant Deputy John Tomblin, and State Forest Ranger Jim Fenlon.

The "Flu" bug has been working fastidiously on the staff at District VI Headquarters, but every cloud has a silver lining! The stenographers enjoyed the part where the men lost their voices and could not give dictation. Maybe the men enjoyed the stenographers losing their voices as silence reigned in the offices.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

With the coming of the damp weather and the end of fire season, we in Riverside County feel that we can stand back and look over a very successful fire season. Although we have had more fires this year (784) than last (707), our acreage burned was very low (1,356.7 acres) this year compared to 6,436.8 acres last year. Our largest fire, the Millard, was 250 acres and all fires were picked up in the first burning period.

We feel that the extensive training program for the fire crews, having patrolmen in the field, and strong initial attack action, account for the low acreage burned in Riverside County.

Our winter work program is moving right along with the temporary station at Temecula nearing completion and Anza the next step for the crew. The Perris Headquarters' grounds will be improved with the paving of 15,000 sq. ft. of the yard.

W. J. Nickerl
Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Lots of congratulations and cigar smoke have been flying around La Mesa Headquarters the last few weeks.

First, it was Foreman Phil Crosby's news of the arrival of a son Darrell Philip, on November 28. Darrell weighed in at 7 pounds 4 ounces and the poor child is already being called "Poot Junior" or "Little Poot" by Phil's Forestry pals. Little Miss Aleta Crosby is reportedly very proud of her new brother and who can blame her? Aleta is 2 years old and is the sweetheart of the La Mesa Headquarters.

Next, on December 5th, the arrival of Stephen Larry was announced by Foreman Patrolman Larry Ramsbacker. Stephen weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces at birth. He is the first baby in the Ramsbacker household - needless to say, Larry is looking a little sleepless these days.

Then, on December 20th, Stephen Edward Dunton arrived. Proud papa is Foreman Eddie Dunton of Camp Elliott. Stephen weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces and is reported to look very much like papa in certain respects, on which we won't elaborate at this time.

A pretty good record, wouldn't you say, for one county? Three firefighters for the 1966 season!

Congratulations are also in order for Foreman Bill Clark on his marriage on December 3 in Costa Mesa. Bill and his bride went on a honeymoon and he is now assigned to the County setup at La Mesa Headquarters for the winter.

The following was printed in the "San Diego Union" shortly after Christmas:

"You wouldn't expect to find Santa Claus in the Hilltop Guard Station of the State Division of Forestry, but he has two helpers there - Floyd Reed and Albert Dawson.

"These two employees salvaged parts of tricylcles and scooters from the Otay dump, east of Chula Vista, and by working in their spare time, built four tricycles and three scooters. Parts they couldn't salvage, they purchased out of their own pockets. Today the vehicles are at Nazareth Catholic Orphan's Home in Mission Valley as Christmas gifts."

Foreman Floyd informs us that they have many more toys they were unable to finish for Christmas and they have lots more started so they should have a much larger number of play things to give next year. Keep up the good work, Floyd, we're proud of you!

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

—•JANUARY-VOL 9-NO 1•—

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

16th CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION WEEK MARCH 7 to 14

Governor Warren's Conservation Week Proclamation for 1950 reads as follows:

"In this year of California's centennial of statehood, we are reminded that the tremendous growth and development of our State during its first 100 years is due in large part to the great abundance of its natural resources.

Today, with a population of nearly 11,000,000 people, the drain on these resources is greater than ever before. We have reached the point where California's future progress will be measured by how we conserve its forests, its agricultural and range lands, its water, its mineral and oil desposits, its beach and mountain recreational facilities, and its fish and game.

If we are to make certain that California continues as a pleasant and productive place in which to live and work, each of us must take a personal interest in the conservation of its resources. We must be particularly careful, in our enjoyment of the out-of-doors, to prevent the destruction of our forests through the scourge of fire. We must come to understand the interdependence of forest conservation, water conservation and soil conservation and the relation of all of these to full development of our recreation, and fish and game programs.

In the interest of focusing the attention of the public on the urgent need for increased conservation during the second century of our statehood, I, Earl Warren, Governor of California, do hereby proclaim the period of March 7 to 14, 1950, as CONSERVATION WEEK and I urge all the people of our State to become more aware of the extent to which our daily welfare depends upon natural resources.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of California to be affixed this 25th day of January, A.D., One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty.

EARL WARREN, Governor of California

Attest: FRANK M. JORDAN, Secretary of State"

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

More than 100 field technicians representing at least twelve governmental and private agencies met at Davis during the last part of January for a three-day seminar on range improvement problems. Previous group conferences held periodically during the last five years to effect a coordinated attack on the complex and oft time controversial ecological study of brush conversion have in great part been limited to technical and policy problems at administrative levels. This was the first meeting of its kind where field men of all agencies had an opportunity to hear and discuss the action program of each agency and the many scientific and technical problems connected with such a far reaching program. The meeting proved of great value to all workers and should materially contribute to a better application of understandings and techniques in the field.

The first part of February saw the first annual Sierra Cascade Logging Conference convene in Chico with more than five hundred loggers, lumbermen, and foresters meeting to discuss forest problems of the Cascade and Sierra Regions. Lumbermen of the redwood region have met in similar conferences for many years but this conference was the first of its kind to be held by such a representative group in the Sierra Cascade Region. General theme of the three-day meeting was "How Can We Reduce Log Costs." The picture of the mixed pine logging industry was ably presented from the public viewpoint by Senator Ed Regan of Weaverville, from the State's viewpoint by State Forester DeWitt Nelson, the Federal viewpoint by Pat Thompson, Regional Forester, U. S. Forest Service; and from industry's viewpoint by Charles Gray of the Stockton Box Company.

The group participated in detailed discussion of the many forest problems during the remainder of the meeting which was climaxed by a large exhibit and demonstration by equipment and allied industries.

Last year over three and one-half million board feet of forest products and five thousand Christmas trees were removed from California State forests with a return to the State of $19,590.00. Practically all of the forest products with the exception of the Christmas trees were harvested from the Mountain Home State Forest.

A re-appraisal of the Lake and Napa Insect Control Project indicated this month that twice as many infested trees will require control work as was originally anticipated. The cold weather has shown up a great many more infested trees in Lake County and more are being revealed each day. Field control work by the Division has been underway in this area since the early part of January and over one hundred sixty-one trees had been treated by the end of the month.

A summary of the activities of our six forest advisors for the calendar year 1949 indicates that four hundred eight forest products operators and forest land owners involving 50,038 acres were advised or given forest management assistance. Some 12,367,000 board feet of forest products were harvested under the advisory program bringing approximately $95,717 gross return to the owners. There are over 12,000 farmers and small wood lot owners in California who control nearly 3,200,000 acres of timber land. From these figures it can be readily seen that our forest advisory work is barely scratching the surface of this advisory problem.

Completed this month by the Fire Control Section was the 1950 Clarke McNary Area and Cost Study. This study, the result of several months of effort, is required every five years by the Federal government. It is on the basis of this area and cost study that the Federal government allocates money to California for fire protection on lands within the State boundary that possess Federal interest.

All fire report have been received from the field and cooperating agencies and our annual compilation of fire statistics is now underway. It is our hope to have these statistics completed and ready for distribution by the first of March.

The Division of Communications has just released for purchase eighty mobile radio units. District VI will receive twenty-eight units and all others ten each. Two mobile units will be used to equip two trucks that will be used during the summer season on range improvement work. The radio equipment is manufactured by Link and is of the latest vintage in transmitting and receiving equipment. It appears rather definite that the Division of Communications will assume control of Division of Forestry radio technicians on or about May 1.

Thereafter this Division will pay service charges on work provided by these technicians.

The preliminary Range Improvement Summary Report for the year 1949 has been corrected and has now been prepared in final form. It will be distributed to interested organizations and individuals during February.

On January 30 the Division participated in a conference attended by approximately 100 representatives of State Departments for the purpose of organizing a State-wide accident prevention program. The accident history of each division will be summarized as well as information concerning the number of pieces of equipment in operation, total mileage equipment runs, and cost of repairs.

Construction work was in full swing throughout the State during the month of January. In District I the remodeling of the Ft. Bragg Office in Mendocino County is progressing rapidly, the Mendocino Woodland Camp equipment shed has been started and progress on the Healdsburg Station equipment building has progressed in spite of inclement weather. Weather has had a serious effect on the construction of the Parlin Ford C.D.C. Camp but some progress has been made. The metal building at Elk Camp in Humboldt County suffered severe damage from snow and will necessitate major repairs before it can be used further.

The total number of C.D.C. inmates at the temporary headquarters of District III at Higgins Corner Camp now total thirty. Until such time as these men will be used on camp construction work at a permanent site they are being utilized on bridge reconstruction projects in Placer County. The proposed Pilot Hill Lookout in El Dorado County has been approved along with the necessary roads and telephone lines. The State will erect and equip the lookout station at Pilot Hill. Because of increased hazards during the period of construction of Folsom Dam, the U. S. Army Engineers have agreed to absorb the cost of manning the lookout tower. This additional detection will be used to supplement present lookout coverage during the construction period. In Placer County the rebuilding of the North Fork Bridge was completed this month and construction was begun in the same county on the Middle Fork Bridge over the American River. Garage at Higgins Corner Station in Nevada County was completed and the office and Storeroom at this office were painted. C.Y.A. crews from Pine Grove Camp in Amador County worked during the month on clearance of right-of-way along the Mt. Zion-Sutter Hill telephone line. Work was also done in brush removal along the newly constructed West Point telephone line.

District IV personnel, in addition to winter construction work, have been working hard on preseason fire prevention programs. Abnormal heavy precipitation during the month of January did some damage to roads, buildings, landscaping in the District IV area. A newly acquired brick machine has been transported from Monterey County and is now being assembled at the Division's Friant Headquarters in Fresno County. The machine should be in operation within the next thirty days. It will be operated by C.Y.A. personnel permitting the manufacture of building blocks that will be used in Division construction saving the taxpayer a considerable sum of money.

Every effort was made in District V to speed construction of the Slack Canyon C.D.C. Camp in Monterey County. Work was also started on the Chalone Peak Lookout road in Monterey County with about two miles constructed and about three miles remaining. C.Y.A. crews in Santa Cruz were busily engaged in building the Little Basin Road, cutting and hauling fence posts, and general telephone line maintenance.

## HOW TO GAIN TWO DAYS IN A WEEK

This is adapted from an article by Earl Wilson, newspaper columnist:

| | Hours Saved |
|---|---|
| Get up when the alarm goes off | 1 |
| Dress 10 minutes faster | 1 |
| Carefully plan your day's work | 1 |
| Cut long "lunch hours" | 2 |
| Avoid political, social and sports arguments | 1 |
| Stop reading inapplicable circulars and publications | 1 |
| Cut down telephone long-windedness | 1 |
| Get to office on time and work till quitting time | 2 |
| Cut out coffee-social-time | 2 |
| Dictate short letters instead of novelettes | 2 |
| Save your free advice; mind your own business | 2 |
| | 16 |

A great man shows his greatness by the way he treats little men.

Many wise words are spoken in jest, but they don't compare with the millions of foolish ones spoken in earnest.

Administrative Digest
January 18, 1950

## IMPROVED FIRE-FINDER DISCS

The Photo-Reproduction Unit at R. O. can now produce metal fire finder discs upon which the map is reproduced photographically for use with the Osborne fire finder.

The method produces a durable, non-fading, distortion-free map, which is photographed directly on the white painted surface of the disc. A coating of clear lacquer over the map provides a weather-proof seal and, also, a surface for making ink or pencil lines to "strikes." Such marks may be removed with soap and water without damage to the disc. This method produces an accurate and undistorted lookout map.

It is not new, having been used in Region 3 for some time. The first Forest in R-5 to equip its lookouts with this permanent map was the Angeles.

(Engineering-R.O.)
Administrative Digest
January 18, 1950

## A CALIFORNIA WATERSHED FILM

A California Watershed film will be produced this year by the State Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the University of California. It is to be 18 minutes in length and directed at school grades 7-10. Water at the tap will be followed back in an attempt to find out where it originates. Then, from the forest watershed in the Sierra, the water journey will be retraced, showing a variety of uses en route to the sea. The San Francisco water system will be the central "character", but all watershed lands of California will be described, using maps.

Administrative Digest-January, 1950

GEORGE CRAIG, FOREST ENGINEER FOR THE WESTERN PINE ASSOCIATION, REPORTS THE FOLLOWING: PROGRESS ON THE TREE FARM PROGRAM IN THE PINE REGION:

| YEAR | TOTAL TREE FARMS AT YEAR'S END | | NET INCREASE DURING YEAR | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | Acreage | No. | Acres |
| 1942 | 1 | 210,881 | 1 | 210,881 |
| 1943 | 2 | 278,881 | 1 | 68,000 |
| 1944 | 4 | 372,765 | 2 | 93,884 |
| 1945 | 21 | 403,212 | 17 | 30,447 |
| 1946 | 24 | 500,118 | 3 | 96,906 |
| 1947 | 24 | 500,118 | - | --- |
| 1948 | 59 | 531,118 | 35 | 31,000 |
| 1949 | 94 | 647,255 | 35 | 116,137 |

Of the 35 new tree farms in California this year, 25, totalling 13,395 acres, were initially contacted through the help of the Division of Forestry personnel. As in 1948, field men of the division have been thoroughly cooperative. Their help in pushing this program is greatly appreciated.

Administrative District II led in the number and acreage of new tree farms. This might be expected because of its large timber area and the fact that Dale Prentice and I both contact parts of the district for the Association. The new tree farms (i.e. 1949) are listed below by counties:

| District I | No. | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Lake | 2 | 480 |
| Lake & Napa | 1 | 3,500 |
| Total | 3 | 3,980 |

| District III | No. | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Amador | 3 | 9,072 |
| Eldorado | 0 | 5,625* |
| Nevada | 1 | 150 |
| Yuba | 1 | 22 |
| Total | 5 | 14,869 |
| Butte & Yuba | 1 | 635 |

| District II | No. | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Butte | 9 | 864 |
| Plumas | 3 | 21,410 |
| Shasta | 8 | 54,309 |
| Siskiyou | 2 | 18,790 |
| Trinity | 1 | 600 |
| Total | 23 | 95,973 |

| District IV | No. | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Madera | 1 | 400 |
| Mariposa | 1 | 120 |
| Tulare | 1 | 160 |
| Total | 3 | 680 |

*Net addition to existing tree farms in county.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### HAPPENINGS IN DISTRICT II

At long last some news from District II.

To begin with, we are now settled in our new district office, almost that is, having moved in September. It is certainly a big improvement over the offices we have occupied in the past. We now have a little room to spread out in.

Up to the present time the grounds are quite bare, however, Technician Sischo is busy with landscaping plans.

There have been several changes in our headquarters personnel. L. T. Petersen, former Assistant Deputy was transferred to Sacramento to take charge of the C.D.C. program. Along with this transfer came a promotion to Deputy State

Forester. To take Pete's place we have Lewis Moran, former Ranger in Nevada County.

Neil Edmonds, formerly Associate Ranger in this office, is now a Project Supervisor in charge of the C.D.C. Camp at Magalia. Filling this position we have Howard L. Bromwell, formerly Associate Ranger in Butte County.

Two brand new employees to the Division are Earl Barnett and Gene Jordan. Earl is filling our Storekeeper position and Gene is our Senior Radio Telephone Technician.

This is all the news we have time for now. However, District II made a New Years resolution of sending in more news for the News Letter.

Beverly McMillan
Intermediate Stenographer Clerk

Old Man Winter hit District II with a vengeance during the period of January 8th to 16th inclusive, with amounts of snow varying from 15 inches at Redding to 5 feet at Stirling City, falling over various portions of the district.

Highway 99 between Redding and Dunsmuir was closed and then opened again so frequently that the newspapers could not keep up with the most recent development and at least once the Sacramento Bee had statements that it was both open and closed in the same article. (See January 18, 1950, page 1).
Up to January 18th only one-way traffic was allowed on long stretches up the Sacramento River Canyon.

Associate Ranger Harry McKeen's Stirling City headquarters was isolated for three days with no mail, telephone or radio communications. In the same area the Magalia C.D.C. Camp was just preparing to dig themselves out from the first storm when the second hit. They managed to keep the road open with the aid of a bulldozer, but put in a hurry up call for a dozen snow shovels to the District Warehouse so that they could dig themselves out. Altogether they had about 4 feet of that cold white stuff.

Camp Whitmore probably turned in the "Champeen Snow Bunny" performance in a valiant effort to rescue their camp's water supply. Their water comes over 4 miles via ditch line and with only two pairs of snowshoes available (one of them borrowed from Assistant Technician George Grogan) Project Supervisor Wally Hunt and his boys had to do their quota of foot slogging in order to free the ditch of snow and ice and restore the camp's water supply.

Rain fell at the lower elevations starting on the evening of January 16, cleaning the snow from some roads but making others resemble hog-wallows. We are all hoping that our quota of blustery winter weather will come in smaller doses in the future.

Dave Erb
Associate Ranger

All we have heard here at the Whitmore C.Y.A. Forestry Camp this past two weeks is water, water, and no water.

Our water supply comes from a ditch which is about five miles long and the trek from Camp to the head of it to open it up is from 40 inches

maximum snow at Camp to 5 to 7 feet at the head of the ditch and it is no small job. First the ditch froze up and then the snow came and it has been rough trying to keep enough water coming for drinking and cooking purposes. (A little snow melting helps out). We finally borrowed a pair of bear paws from Technician Sischo and a pair of snow shoes from Technician Grogan and the trip was not too bad. At least we have a little more water.

We thought we had found a use for our tractor and square blade but it won't even push snow.

Our projects have been limited the past two weeks to snow shoveling. Our in-camp projects are frozen out. Logs and lumber are frozen to the extent we cannot run the mill or planes.

After the heavy rain of two days we still have over 2 feet of snow.

W. R. Hunt
Project Supervisor

January, 1950, will be long remembered by residents of Siskiyou County as the month and year of the "Big Snow". After a long dry fall and early part of the winter in which the precipitation declined further and further below normal, winter weather struck with all its fury on the heels of dry, zero temperatures. On January 7th a moderate snow storm struck the Pacific Northwest as far south as Northern California and partially tied up traffic and communications. Hardly had this first storm abated when the second storm struck on the 9th, adding further depth to the snow and further snarling communications. On the 13th the third storm struck bringing winds of fifty to sixty mile gales, and piling snow drifts twenty-five feet deep.

The blizzard of the 13th caught school children in the schools, and although the attempt was made to return them to their homes at noon, a number of school buses were forced to turn back, some being abandoned on the road. Tourists and travelers were caught in the blizzard and forced to seek shelter in farm houses along the roads and highways.

At Hilt an elderly man walking from the general store to his home was unable to complete the distance and froze to death fifty feet from his home.

Telephone communication lines, while holding up well under the storm, were put to a severe test to handle the numerous emergency calls throughout the county. Needless to say, all State highway, County road, logging and State Forestry equipment was manned, and although a gigantic attempt was made to keep main roads open, the attempt was feeble in comparison to the fury of the storm. Snow plows were caught in the heavy drifts and were unable to return to their stations. All secondary roads, as well as the highway, were soon closed to all traffic. Men of the Division of Highways, County Road Department, and State Division of Forestry, worked day and night, and as soon as the storm began to abate the efforts of these men began to tell. State highways and County primary and secondary roads were opened as fast as equipment could push the heavy drifts aside, which had at this time reached the depth of 42" on the level in the vicinity of Yreka. However, the efforts of these men were again foiled on the 16th when another storm broke and again tied up traffic, communications, etc. Schools were closed down and remained closed until the 19th. At the present time we are opening the last of the secondary roads to two way traffic, with predictions of a new storm 800 miles off the coast, which will probably hit this area within another 36 hours.

Most residents of the county are happy to see the deep snow pack despite the inconvenience involved, and are looking forward to a replenishing

of the water supply during the summer of 1950.

LeRoy Neil
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM NORTH BUTTE UNIT

As we get ready to dispatch the old year out and make way for the new, some of the highlights come to mind again briefly.

1949 was kind to us. The type of fire control personnel seemed, including cooks, improved so greatly that it gave the Division of Forestry the new look for '49. Then the weather treated us no worse, although not any better either, than in '47 or '48 with the exception of a few lightning fires we did not experience in the two previous years.

Our prevention effort paid off nicely as less than one-third of the total of 27 fires could have been readily prevented.

Better trained and higher caliber crews kept the burned acreage to about 25 acres.

This created time to obtain a great deal of road, bridge and telephone repair and maintenance from standby crews. In addition, about 1100 man-hours were contributed to help launch the C.D.C. program in District II. Cone collection yielded about 2½ tons of Ponderosa cones and about 800 pounds of red and white fir cones. Constant prevention patrol throughout the summer and until the end of deer season allowed a very small number of fires from hunters or recreationists.

A temporary camp was constructed at Forest Ranch on the newly acquired site and water development started.

Construction is now under way on a postwar road project in the Mud Creek area. In this connection, Assistant Ranger Nixon, in charge of the construction, has developed a new technique in using M I as an explosive in construction work. Specially manufactured 3" bits for the air hammer make it possible to use M I the same as dynamite and some granite and lava construction that temporarily halted the job were easily handled by multiple charges in this manner. Always looking for a way to avoid hard manual labor if there is a chance to use the head instead, this road construction crew also uses water under good pressure from a pumper to hydraulic a hole under large stumps so that M I could be used effectively in blasting stumps. They report that holes can be put in readily in a few minutes and that the compaction of mud at the sides and bottoms of the holes effectively directs the blast with good results. It is expected that rain and snow will soon halt this job for the winter but it is about one-half completed and completion is expected by early summer.

Forest Practice in this area has looked up since last year and it is felt that in the not too distant future that most all operations will be in compliance 100%. Better than that, we now have active 14 certified Western Pine Tree Farms in the Unit and the movement is gathering momentum as at this time there is some talk of an association of tree farmers and possibility of creating a forest products production cooperation made up of tree farmers within one area.

Yes, 1949 has been kind to us, and it is hoped that 1950 will treat us no worse.

H. G. McKeen, Associate Ranger

NEW ARRIVAL IN NEVADA COUNTY

"Born: Marjorie Ann Hayes, Friday, January 13th, at 6 p.m. in total blackout due to heavy snow. Mother and daughter fine. Pop, Associate Ranger A.J. Hayes, needs a new hat."

J.W. Tomblin, Asst. Deputy

NEVADA COUNTY NEWS

Nevada County has certainly had its share of snow and rain this winter. The storm over the week end of January 13th brought four feet of snow followed by 7½ inches of rain the next day. If you dont think we had a sloppy mess around here, then you should have seen us try to dig our schedule A fire truck out of the "slush" after the rain softened the snow and the truck sank down until all four wheels were on the road and the snow four feet deep around it; it was like dropping a lead ball in a bucket of feathers. It went right out the bottom.

The citizens of Nevada County have had organized for about two years now an organization called the Conservation Council. Since its formation it has undertaken to solve many of the conservation problems confronting the local people. They have worked on and are materially aiding in solving such problems as roadside dumping, overpopulation of deer as it reflects on the damage done to orchardists and grazers; they have organized a course of Forestry now carried on in the local High School and this class is carrying on with the cooperation of the C.D.F.; a very interesting experimental Forestry plot at the local fair grounds. This course incidentally is classed as a regular science course and all graduates of the course receive college preparatory credit for it.

This Council had its annual meeting on January 26 at which the State Forester was guest speaker. The enthusiasm shown by the group was remarkable and this group should go a long way in furthering conservation measures in Nevada County.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

AMADOR COUNTY NEWS

Amador County personnel are busy for the most part with construction and general maintenance of equipment in preparation for the coming fire season.

The materials for the Ranger's Residence are for the most part on the ground and building is well under way. An effort is being made to preserve as much of the native "Greenstone" rock as possible and work it into the general scheme of landscaping, also the native live oak and blue oak. Anyone who has seen our site will appreciate the fact that we have a lot of material to work with, both of the rock and the trees. The natives, however, are appreciative of our effort to use the native material, especially the rock as "Greenstone" is a symbol of the Mother Lode. If we had this pile of rocks in Hollywood, we could do quite a landslide business.

Work has started on relocation and rebuilding the Mt. Zion-Sutter Hill telephone line which will eventually carry a phantom circuit operating the radio repeater on Mt. Zion by remote control. Considerable brushing is being done in

connection with this phone line. Numerous right-of-ways were also secured.

We were able to do some roadside clearing with C.Y.A. crews between rain and snow storms. Our initial contacts are also being made in the 1950 Range Improvement Program with particular attention being paid to experiences of ranchers and stockmen in burning in the past.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY

The hills around Fresno County are beginning to take on that green look and if the moisture content of the soil is any indication we might have a little grass. However, a couple of good warm winds could change this picture considerably. Anyhow we are hoping, for the sake of the stockmen, that they will have plenty of feed for a change. With good feed, fat stock, maybe we could afford a steak once in a while.

The winter projects in Fresno County are progressing at a rapid rate. At the Hurley Station the casing of the well has been completed. Ten three foot sections of 42" concrete pipe and one 36" section were lowered into position under the able direction of Associate Ranger Higgins. This will insure an adequate source of spring water when the new pressure system is installed. A pump house is planned for the summer project. At Blasingame the two stall addition to the garage is nearing completion. At our headquarters at Sanger the warehouse is now completed, the grape vines have been pruned and the lay out is completed for the office building. A new brick making machine has been received and installed at the Fort Millerton Station to make the 4" x 8" x 12" pumice brick to be used in the construction of the office and residences at the new county headquarters. The brick maker, our versatile foreman Harry Wilcock and a C.Y.A. crew.

In the West side District our friend Assistant Ranger Denney is mighty proud of his recent acquisition of a new $18,000 fire truck and a new $50,000 fire station on Jayne Avenue five miles east of Coalinga, to keep it in. Its quite a show place and you should drop around and see it if you are in the vicinity.

Many favorable comments have been received on the six four by eight foot signs posted on important county roads. A redwood routed sign was completed and installed at the Fort Millerton Station last summer and five more are nearly ready for installation at Blasingame, Hurley, Piedra, Squaw Valley and Sand Creek Stations. These signs are approximately 48" x 32" x 2" thick redwood. We have been told that the redwood for the signs was taken from a sequoia which had lain on the ground at Mountain Home for over a hundred years. Foreman Wilcock is our sign maker and his fame has spread even into District II at Redding for which he has completed a special order sign from the same Mountain Home Sequoia Redwood with routed letters. For all to see, as they pass by, we have erected a "Future Home" sign at the new headquarters site at Sanger.

Fresno County welcomes James Hess, who has given up pounding a special police beat in Los Angeles to join our dispatcher staff. Hess reported for work on January 27th. Luck to you Jim.

Wedding bells are in the offing for our dimpled cheeked foreman Bart Hodges, who, as he says, will be joined in wedlock to Miss Nancy Ferriea in June. Congratulations to both you nice people.

H. P. Tucker, Dispatcher

KINGS COUNTY

January has been an unusually busy month for personnel in this county. The Assistant Ranger has been on the go helping fireman at Avenal, Murray and Burris Park with construction and additions to buildings, also, attends farm bureau meeting at least twice each week.

The Ranger, has turned nursery-man, landscaping at various stations, planting shade trees and ornamental shrubs. We have had some rain the past month, believe it or not the west side of the valley is turning a light green.

The Dispatcher, has been in a dither wrestling with the Annual Report. Training is receiving considerable attention, we hope to complete a course on structural firefighting and care of equipment. We have approximately 75 volunteers in this county who are very active.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

GOAT TROUBLE

Assistant Ranger Jack B. Cullumber of Coarsegold District, Madera County, finds himself faced with a problem involving his P & E inventory, to wit: the goat herd on the Division's experimental plot near Rancheria. When Jack was assigned to the District he accepted a herd of 18 healthy goats whose primary objective in life (as Jack thought) was to eliminate the brush on the 20 acre plot. But it seems that these goats are keeping abreast of their work and have time to dabble in mathematics, for upon a recent check Cullumber was quite concerned to find that he now has 27 goats to place some where on his inventory. Don't worry, Jack, we'll send you a little "rabbit" calculator that will solve and explain all.

Arthur Moberg
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI NEWS

District VI was honored during the week of February 24 to 27 with a visit from the Deputies on the new Fire Plan study. We feel that everyone concerned recognized the conditions that exist here and was sincerely trying to help us solve our many problems, for which we are indeed grateful. By such understanding, which was very much in evidence, we can look forward to the highest degree of teamwork and efficiency throughout the Division.

James K. Mace
Deputy StateForester

On January 11, 1950, the Los Angeles Times carried an article and photograph on the rescue of 32 passengers in a Los Angeles bound bus through the initiative and resourcefulness of David O. Edwards, Truck Driver at the Oak Glenn C.D.C. Camp in District VI.

When returning from Davis in a firetruck, Edwards noticed flames around the rear wheels of the inter-city bus. He gave chase to the bus, warned the driver of the danger, and assisted in safely removing all passengers from the burning bus. The bus was completely demolished. Congratulations on your quick thinking, Mr. Edwards!

The following letter of commendation has been received from Pacific Greyhound Lines of San Francisco:

"On January 10, 1950, one of our buses caught fire and burned near Sylmar, California.

"Our driver has informed us that Mr. David Edwards, of your service, first observed the fire and signaled our driver with his lights. Although the fire resulted in a total loss to our bus our driver further reports that Mr. Edwards stopped and gave all possible aid in an effort to extinguish the fire.

"We are very appreciative of Mr. Edwards' assistance and wish to commend him for his efforts.

sd/ Robert E. Gocke
Director of Safety & Claims"

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

With practically all of the Foremen back on the job after vacations, winter work projects are going forward at top speed. The temporary metal prefabricated building at the Temecula Station site has been completed, personnel have moved in, and the station is now being used for Schedule "A" fire protection for the winter season.

The addition to the barracks at the San Jacinto Fire Control Station is virtually complete with only a few finishing touches remaining to be accomplished.

Three men are working at the new Anza Station site, preparing it for the new prefabricated barracks building which will be constructed there. Actual construction will start within two weeks.

Loren A. Baldwin, Dispatcher

RAINBOW CDC CAMP

January saw a slight change in personnel at the Rainbow CDC Camp. We lost Foreman Parks to the Oak Glen CDC Camp. To take his place we welcome Eddie Hannum. Eddie is an ol' hand with pushing crews, so he shouldn't have any trouble. Parks left it in fine shape.

Nothing extraordinary ever happens here. The crews are working on the truck trails of Northern San Diego County. The painting program for the entire camp inside and out has been started. Materials and supplies for the construction of the recreation courts have been received.

A 50 foot line was cut and burned to protect our telephone line out to the "free world."

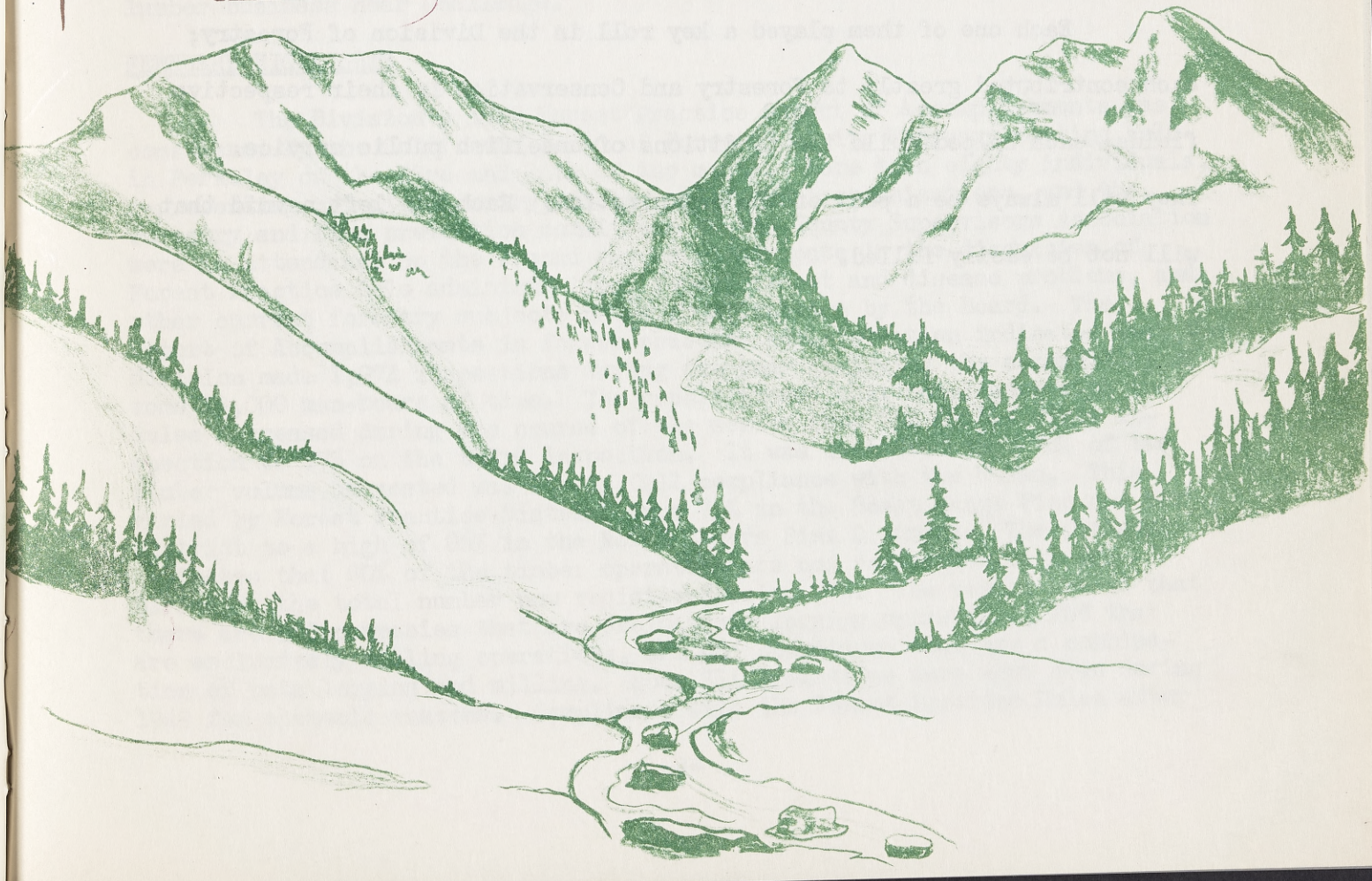
C. A. Brown
Project Supervisor

— · FEBRUARY - VOL. 9 - NO. 2

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



CAROL BENNETTS - RAY DONEY - CHARLIE ENNIS

There are few adequate words of immediate help to families who have suffered the tragic loss of a loved one. What few there are, were phrased inwardly this month by those that knew and worked with Carol Bennetts, Sacramento Office Staff; Ray Doney, Nursery Supervisor; and Charlie Ennis, Forest Engineer; who passed away from sudden heart illness during the month.

Each one of them played a key roll in the Division of Forestry; each contributed greatly to Forestry and Conservation in their respective fields; each helped build the traditions of unselfish public service. They will always be a part of the organization. Each has left a void that will not be easily filled.

## CONSERVATION -- THE PEOPLE'S BUSINESS

California's first regional conference on conservation of natural resources, initiated by the State Department of Education in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources and the California Conservation Council, was held in Pasadena February 16 to 18.

Its purpose was to inspire community interest in conservation problems. About 600 persons attended the conference but, unfortunately, not as large a number of lay people as was hoped for. A large number of technicians, particularly from the various government organizations participated. This meeting will be the forerunner of more to be held in various parts of the State. The next is tentatively scheduled for the first part of 1951 in Berkeley.

The meeting was broken up into general and special sessions. Inspiring talks were presented by Dr. Willard E. Goslin, Superintendent of Pasadena City Schools; and Dr. Roy Simpson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Regional Forester Pat Thompson and W. R. Schofield of the California Forest Protective Association presented the forestry and wild land management phase with State Forester DeWitt Nelson as moderator. There were approximately fifteen study group sections that considered various conservation problems.

## WALTER COUPE ACCIDENTLY KILLED

Walter Coupe formerly Deputy State Forester with the Division from 1926-44 was killed accidently this month when cleaning a rifle at his home in Challenge, Butte County. Walt was Fire Control Officer from 1932-38. He left the Division as Deputy State Forester in charge of the Southern California District in 1944 to associate with his brother Charlie in the lumber business near Challenge.

## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Division's 1949 Forest Practice Report of Accomplishments was considered by the California Board of Forestry at its February meeting held in Berkeley on the 23rd and 24th of the month. More than eighty individuals, representing private industry, State, and Federal organizations, and the forestry and fire prevention committees of the County Supervisors Association were in attendance on the second day to participate in the discussion of Forest Practice Rule administration, forest insect and disease problems, and other current forestry subjects under consideration by the Board. The Report of Accomplishments in forest practice administration indicated that the Division made 1,974 inspections during the year involving the expenditure of some 13,000 man-hours of time. The report showed that compliance with the Rules increased during the course of the season from 54% on the first inspection to 77% on the third inspection. It was estimated that 78% of the timber volume harvested was cut in full compliance with the Rules. This varied by Forest Practice District from 73% in the Coast Range Pine and Fir District to a high of 86% in the North Sierra Pine District. The Division estimates that 80% of the timber operators are now registered with the Division, the total number now registered being 776. The report showed that there are 372 companies that are exclusively logging operations, 268 that are exclusively milling operations, and 485 operations that are a combination of both logging and milling. Some 314 operations were shut down during 1949 for economic reasons. Compliance with the Forest Practice Rules after

three or more inspections in each of the four districts were by per cent of total number of operators.

64% Redwood District
94% North Sierra Pine District
82% South Sierra Pine District
87% Coast Range Pine and Fir District

The Forest Practice Rules found in greatest violation last season were the slash and snag disposal requirements.

The Board considered and approved alternate forest practice plans submitted by the Winton, Associated Box and Lumber, and the Clover Valley Lumber Company.

The staff of the Forest Insect Laboratory gave a concise report to the Board on forest insect conditions during the 49-50 season. (Their report, in printed form, was published by this Division this month and sent to all registered timber operators. The pamphlet is entitled "Forest Insect Conditions-1949.")

The Board extended the Lake-Napa Zone of Insect Infestation to include an additional 63,000 acres of privately-owned infested forest land in Lake County. This zone of infestation now includes approximately 110,000 acres. The Board also established two more zones of insect infestation. They are the Fence Meadow Zone in Fresno County and the Mineral-Viola Zone in Tehama and Shasta Counties. Work will be undertaken on both of these zones this season to effectively control the insect outbreaks.

A Statement of Objectives in Conservation Education prepared by the Department of Natural Resources was considered by the Board of Forestry and given approval and endorsement.

The Board also reviewed the Division's 1950 Clarke McNary area and cost Report, a report compiled every five years in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service which is used as a base in computing each state's share of money annually appropriated by the Federal Government for cooperative fire prevention and suppression work on State and privately owned lands of primary timber and watershed value.

The Division of Forestry radio license requests that have been pending before the Federal Communications Commission since December, 1949, have received no action to date. To expedite decisions on this matter, an engineer from the Division of Communications was sent to Washington this month. His preliminary report indicates that approval of license requests now await action by the Inter-Departmental Radio Advisory Committee. The Division is hopeful that this committee's approval will be given in order that we have our licenses on hand soon. Receipt of licenses are necessary before the Division can engage in a large job of changing crystals that will place radio equipment on the proper communication channels.

Training sessions were started in many parts of the State, some at a district level, some at ranger level. A two-day session was held in District I, attended by all administrative personnel, covering the Division's administrative work in the field of public relations and fire prevention.

Training sessions for the fire control seasonal personnel in District III will be conducted at the county level this year rather than at a central school of instruction at the district level. Tulare and Fresno Counties conducted two-day training sessions for Assistant Ranger personnel during the month. Tentative plans have been laid in District VI for two training sessions of two days each during the middle and latter part of March.

Construction progress was noticeable in all parts of the State during the month. In District I the Healdsburg equipment building is 75% complete and work has been started on the barracks at that station. Remodeling of the Ft. Bragg Assistant Ranger office was about 65% complete.

A suitable location for the adult correction camp in District III has not been located. Other remodeling, repair, and new construction activities in this district progressed satisfactorily.

In District I the insect control project in Lake County is well under way, the eradication crew being increased to ten men during the month. On the Jackson State Forest, field work was nearly completed in February on three experimental thinning plots. Continued progress was also made on the forest management plan for the Forest. Farm forestry contacts in this district during the month totaled seventeen, the contacts including information on tree planting, timber survey, management plans, logging contacts, pole treatment, and a host of other subjects.

The Farm Forester in District III supervised the lifting, treating, and packaging of 2,300 fir and cedar seedlings that were distributed to fifteen cooperators in the Mother Lode Section. Since the first of the year 16,365 Douglas fir, 3,260 redwood, and 2,815 Monterey pine seedlings have been sold from the small forest nursery maintained at the Ben Lomond C.Y.A. Camp in Santa Cruz County.

The Cuyamaca Insect Project in San Diego County was initiated during the latter part of February.

Range Improvement Technicians were extremely busy with preseason contact work in the three northern districts. Meetings were held in District I to work on ownership maps with ranchers who contemplate range improvement activities during the coming fire season. In District III meetings were held in El Dorado, Calaveras, and Nevada Counties to discuss range improvement work with local people.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### NEWS FROM DISTRICT II HEADQUARTERS

The main thing there is to report at this writing is that District II is now suffering the loss of Herb Kaufner, Forest Technician, who transferred to District I effective February 15, 1950. We believe that District I is lucky to have Herb.

To give Herb a proper send-off a district party was held at the El Cap night club, a dinner dance I should say. I would say that everyone had a wonderful time, especially from the looks of the bloodshot eyes and hagard faces the next morning.

Practically everyone here in the office has been busy fire planning the past few weeks and things will be busier still with the arrival of all the Deputies here on Sunday, March 5th.

We are very proud of our sign that District IV made for us and it is just receiving the final touches as to varnish, painting the lettering and so forth getting it ready to be put up.

Beverly McMillan
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

REPORT FROM MAGALIA

On Monday, January 16, we found ourselves "Digging out" from a forty-three inch snow storm. We were without electric-power and our telephone communications were out, and are still out at the writing of this report.

In order to overcome the blackout, a hurried call for "help" was sent to Ranger Biggs and within a short time a 1500 Watt light-plant was in operation.

During the height of the storm, it was imperative that we keep the snow off the tents as much as possible. This, we did, both day and night. However, two of our tents were lost. One of them was used for housing our materials and the other tent was used to cover our oil and greases.

Commendation is in order for all our camp personnel for the splendid manner in which they proved themselves as being capable for any emergency.

We had been "hitting the ball", taking advantage of the good weather conditions while we could and making satisfactory progress. The road into camp had been conditioned to accommodate the many heavy supply trucks that have been bearing down on the road without too much difficulty from mud and snow. Finally, and at long last, the structural materials for our steel structure buildings arrived.

In order to speed-up the job, a six-man crew from Siskiyou moved in January 3, to assist in the erection of the steel structure buildings. Difficulties were encountered the first day or so, until the boys got the hang of things.

We also had a five-man crew from Shasta County. They arrived January 3, to lend a much needed hand in the construction of one and a half miles of telephone line; a four-pin job.

However, our atomic effort to speed-up the job was short-lived, as Old Man Winter moved in on January 7, making it necessary for us to return the outside crews to their respective headquarters until weather conditions are more favorable.

Now that the major part of our building materials are on hand, all that is required to get our building program into "high gear", is a little assistance from the "opposing elements."

Neil Edmonds
Project Supervisor

## LASSEN COUNTY NEWS

Over one hundred people attended the C.S.E.A. party given by the Lassen County Division of Forestry employees on January 20th.

The other state divisions will be responsible for future parties during the year.

Assistant Ranger Charlie Richardson was chairman of the affair, with Mrs. R. K. Smith in charge of the food committee. Other committee chairmen for the affair were Mrs. Merrill Swain, in charge of guest register, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Hubbard, co-chairmen of the Hall Committee.

All the Forestry wives and Elton Brown, headquarters cook, got together in producing the vast quantities of beans, salads, fresh hot rolls (cooked by Ann Taggart, Forestry Clerk), and apple pie a-la-mode, necessary to satisfy notable C.S.E.A. appetites.

After the dinner, President Al Huber conducted a business meeting, during which Charlie Richardson was elected Vice-President to take the place of Merl Sturgeon of the Division of Fish and Game, who resigned because of his transfer to Sebastapol. This gives the Division of Forestry two members on the Executive Council, Associate Ranger Merrill Swain being a regularly elected Council member.

Our Lassen County headquarters cook, Elton Brown and Miss Bertha Streshley were married December 18, 1949, and are residing at their home in Susanville. The Lassen County Division of Forestry Employees Club presented them with a wedding gift of a spun aluminum tray embossed with pheasant design. Brownie also is the proud owner of a new Buick in honor of the occasion. The couple certainly have the best wishes of all their friends.

Foreman Richard Walker has been granted a leave of absence effective in February for some Junior College courses in forestry and supporting subjects. He will be back with us in time for fire season. Foreman Rex Coalson is also on a four year leave of absence for college under the G.I. bill.

Charles Richardson
Assistant Ranger

## FORT JONES STATION GETS NEW GARAGE

When we weren't shoveling snow in Siskiyou County this winter we were pounding nails, and of course a few fingernails got in the way, too.

At our Fort Jones Station we built a four-car garage with two additional bays for storage. The floor elevation on one of the bays was raised four feet to facilitate loading fire camp equipment and tools at truck height. Also, one of the bays was sealed and insulated with four inch rock wool batts. This will enable us to maintain a fire truck under Schedule A Agreement during the sub-zero winter weather. At least the pump or tank won't freeze up until it sticks its nose out of the "padded cell", the boys call it!

This building was built according to the new plan which the state has adopted for this type of structure. The plan worked out very satisfactorily, with a few exceptions. This plan has now been revised, taking out the bugs we found.

We utilized 15,000 board feet of lumber which was sawed at the Whitmore C.Y.A. camp sawmill. This being Ponderosa pine it was used for form lumber, studding, sub-siding and purlins.

The total cost of materials in this building was $2,870.00, which is less than $1.50 a square foot. We put forth extra effort as to workmanship in the construction of this building. In doing so we came out with something that we like and are proud of.

Oh yes, the nearest we came to having a casualty on this project was when Assistant Ranger Joe Vardanega decided to get married on February 4th. That night, of all nights, he dreamed that he was working upon the top ledge of the scaffold at the garage building and it gave way, therefore throwing him off balance and he fell out of bed.

Lee L. Lange
Associate State Forest Ranger

WHITMORE C.Y.A. CAMP

The month of January left us with very little accomplished on our work projects. The heavy snow kept us grounded most of the time.

We were able to finish post war construction of our visitors building and the remodeling of our C.D.F. personnel barracks.

The mill and planer have been frozen out.

When February 1st rolled around we were able to get the road open to our telephone pole job and poles are being cut and peeled at the rate of about seventy-five a day. We are cutting nothing smaller than a class 6 pole and the average is on the heavy side of class 5. We hope to have room to segregate our various classes of poles this year and be able to ship them out in uniform sizes.

We have also been working on a pole salvage job on the old Western Union line around Shasta Dam. These are very good poles and were given to us for taking them out.

The last week of February we shipped out 480 treated poles to Districts I, II, III, and V.

W. R. Hunt
Forestry Project Supervisor

RANGE IMPROVEMENT - CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHT CALAVERAS WORK

The busy winter months that have just passed, with the transition from summer to winter work, and now the preparation for the fire season, has found us here at Calaveras County very busy indeed. We've missed writing to

the News Letter but have read it and enjoyed reading what other counties are doing.

As for our activities; here are the Hi-lites of but a few of the many being accomplished! Take for instance this past week, in Public Relations alone. We had a meeting on Tuesday, February 7th, at our San Andreas headquarters with the Calaveras County Brush Burning Advisory Committee. In attendance, aside from the Calaveras County CDF Administration and Fire Crew Group, were; Assistant Deputy Tomblin and Range Improvement Technicians Ralph Fenner and Charles Carlson of the District III Headquarters. Control burning and land clearing, with reseeding, were discussed and our policy outlined to the 41 farmers gathered. The availability of the Control Burning standby crews was also related to them.

The regular meeting of the 42 San Andreas Volunteer Firemen, was also held at our San Andreas Headquarters on Friday, February 10th. Guest of honor at the dinner, preceding the meeting, was the Honorable Jesse A. Mayo, State Senator, who presented the Volunteer Firemen with a trophy for winning the "Hand Pumper" contest at the State Fair. Doctors Adams and Wykle, of San Andreas, were also present to demonstrate the Emerson Resuscitator purchased by the firemen. The demonstration was exceedingly interesting, and since Fire Chief Dante Queirolo has offered the use of it to the Division of Forestry, if ever the occasion arises, we are looking forward to the time when we can take the Red Cross Resuscitator course soon to be offered.

The people of the Mother Lode District were given a better insight into the workings and structure of the Division of Forestry via a Broadcast over station KROG in Sonora on Saturday, February 11th. The script was written by Ranger James Fenlon, who was also to be the speaker, but due to illness had to be replaced by Dispatcher Art Jasso. Plans are now for future broadcasts.

Our winter projects have progressed quite well. The new O'Neil Creek Bridge job has been completed except for the decking. The re-modeling of the Calaveras River Bridge and Mokelumne River Bridge is also going fine.

We're also building new garages at West Point and Murphys stations. Murphys is nearing completion and West Point is well along.

A new phone line has been set up from Fowler Lookout to the Copperopolis station. About 6 miles in length. And the Sierra Vista to Mountain Ranch line is being revamped. Both will aid greatly our communications.

With the aid of Foreman Lee Friberg, San Andreas Headquarters has had a new face lifting. With new curbings around the warehouse and a new pump, with pump house, added to the garage. "Fri" has also completed all of the inside painting in the office and barracks. The fellows are very proud of the rock wall Foreman Henry Black & Company built behind the Rangers' residence. It's really good (and straight too).

Horrors of horrors - the Dispatcher, old "False Alarm" has been seen going around with a shovel and other implements of labor, and ACTUALLY USING them. It seems that the weather station was built over a shaft or tunnel and after a heavy rain, a large abyss "plopped" right out from under the weather house. Guess who filled the yawning crevice? Kidding aside, the

Dispatcher is pleased to be able to work out on the phone lines and other projects, and also on the headquarters projects. And except for the aching muscles and charley horses acquired, after chasing long-legged Associate Mueller & Assistant Jackson through the brush, while acting as rod-man, the change has been for the better and the country more familiar.

Good luck and congratulations to Assistant Ranger Dick Wood, who has left our county for a position with the CDC in Placer County.

Arthur Jasso, Dispatcher

NEW ARRIVAL IN CALAVERAS COUNTY

To firetruck driver, Raymond L. Houston and his wife Margueret; a 7 pound baby girl, on Sunday, February 19. Ray was staying in San Andreas headquarters when the call came from his mother-in-law at 2:00 A.M. announcing the event from Sacramento. If all firemen could dress and leave the station as quickly as Ray did, there would be little loss from any fires. We won't say how long it took Ray to get to Sacramento because the Highway Patrol may read this, but isn't there penalty for flying low?

Arthur Jasso, Dispatcher

NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

Placer County personnel were deeply saddened by the passing of Carol Bennetts and join with the rest of the Division in extending our deepest sympathies to Don and Doris. Those of us who have worked with Carol and knew her as a friend know that she has left a spot in our work and in our hearts that cannot be filled. Her continual happy nature and willingness to help endeared her to all of us and we in the field appreciated her efforts which were always to the end of advancing the work we were trying to do.

Our CDC camp program suffered a severe set-back when word was received that the heretofore approved site near Meadow Vista was to be abandoned in view of continued protests against the camp. Actual construction work had not been started due to a slight cloud on the titel which was expected to be cleared up any day, but considerable effort had been expended in surveying, piling brush, making arrangements for utilities and working up rights-of-way for a road. The protests were from a minority group mainly outside a two mile radius of the site and, to my knowledge, professed no concrete and well-based objection. Since publication of the intention to withdraw many local citizens have expressed their disappointment since the camp would provide many advantages.

We welcome Michael Schori as Associate Ranger in Placer County. Mike reported on March 1 from San Diego County.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

FROM NEVADA COUNTY

Garbage? Well we've got it. Real select garbage too and right in the main street of Grass Valley and Nevada City. To help impress the people of this county of the presence of Conservation Week the boys from the C.D.F.

prompted by the local Conservation Council erected a large pile of hand picked junk from adjacent county lanes on the main streets of both cities and decorated each pile with signs reading "No dumping" eliminate roadside dumping" and "Conservation Weed March 7 to 14". The stunt really set the people to buzzing and we think that some good results will be obtained.

Along the same lines the Conservation Council with the cooperation of the Board of Supervisors have purchased 160 acres of land to be made into a public dump where people can deposit their junk thereby cutting down, we hope, on promiscuous roadside dumping.

Our Shady Creek Station has taken on a new look this Spring. The boys have overhauled it from stem to stern. The most striking change is replacement of the wash and shower room floor with a cement slab which is guaranteed not to rot and to keep clean. The station also has a complete paint job inside, thanks to District Painter Kogsrud and helpers FEO Wyllie and Foreman Thomas. Other minor repairs put the 15 year old station back into first class condition.

Considerable interest has been shown by the local people in the possibility of income from Christmas tree growing. A few individuals have set out small plantations and by the looks of things there will be several more in the near future. The CDF personnel of this County are not immune to profit so we have set out 300 Red and White fir seedlings recently which were grown in our own seed beds here and we have planted about ten thousand more seed of Red and White fir. Maybe we will be rich some day too.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM AMADOR COUNTY

Nearly all our efforts these days are in construction. We are trying to finish the Ranger's residence at Sutter Hill in order to be able to start a garage at Dew Drop about the first of April which has to be completed by July 1. The weather has certainly been with us in this part of the country. In fact, the weather is so favorable we are beginning to worry about not getting any more rain, which would be bad. Anyway it goes we will have something to worry about. Along with our building we are landscaping. The lawns around the new office and the front of the grounds will soon go in. We have planted quite a number of shrubs and trees both at Sutter Hill and Pine Lodge.

We are about to witness some large scale attempts to eradicate brush by the use of 2-4D and other similar chemicals. Several ranchers are preparing to do this spraying with helicopter in the very near future. Several types of brush will be sprayed and at different times, so we should have a very good chance to see what can be done along these lines in control of brush. We are certainly hoping for good results but have our fingers crossed. This is the first time operators have been able to get the price within reach of the landowner. The cost is supposed to range from five to seven dollars per acre including material and the time of the helicopter and operator.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

C.S.E.A. PURCHASE FIRE PREVENTION BOOK MATCHES

Recognition of the necessity of conserving California's natural resources through the prevention of forest fires has been demonstrated by the California State Employees' Association by the purchase of a supply of prevention book matches. This medium of advertizing, urging that California be kept green and golden, will be distributed to thousands of State employees and their friends. The members and officers of the CSEA are to be congratulated upon assuming this civic responsibility.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

FROM MARIPOSA COUNTY

For some of you that have never heard of Mariposa County it is all Zone I and II, located half-way between Merced and Yosemite National Park. For the past six years it has been under the guidance of Bruce Hufford, State Forest Ranger, one of the Hufford Boys and some times referred to as the Silver Thatched Sage of the Sierra's.

January 1, 1950, saw William S. Fiske, Forest Fire fighter Foreman at Coulterville for the past few years retire from the Division of Forestry. Never have I seen any man more liked by his fellow employees. We will certainly miss hearing the saying around here next fire season "You don't have to worry about that line, Bill Fiske is on it!" The following article regarding Bill's retirement appeared in the Mariposa Gazette: "W.S. Fiske of Red Cloud, who retired after more than 24 years of Forest Service Work, the last few years with the State Forestry Department, was honored at a farewell dinner in the Jeffrey Hotel, Coulterville, last Saturday evening. Thirty six persons, including both members of the State and National Forest Services, were present to honor one of the most popular and well-liked members of the service. Bruce Hufford, State Forest Ranger of Mariposa, was speaker of the evening, followed by Bill Spargo, District Ranger from Sonora, John Converse a neighbor, and lifelong friend who has worked with Bill in the National Forest for many years and Ed Minners, State Ranger from Tuolumne. Mr. Fiske, who knows every trout stream in these mountains, was presented with a fine fishing outfit at the close of the festivities. No doubt he will put it to good use."

The other day Assistant Ranger Bill Shimer of Coulterville came 34 miles across the "Burma Road" to transact some business at the Mariposa Headquarters. Upon arriving at Headquarters he found that he had a passenger accompanying him, namely, one Rhode Island Red Rooster who had also made the trip in the back of Bill's pickup. Bill thought the thing had gone far enough so the rooster made the return journey in a box.

The past couple of months has seen the town of Mariposa acquire their own fire truck. They have a nice unit which carries several hundred gallons of water and have organized a Volunteer Department giving them 24-hour protection. In the past year we have had to handle two large structural fires in the town and because they happened at the right time and with a lot of "luck" we were able to put them under control preventing the loss of the entire business section. We are very happy to see this new truck in town and wish them every success.

We are very much in the construction business this winter. At Usona, Cathay, and Hornitos Stations we are building pumice-brick two car garages with tool rooms. Assistant Ranger "Casey" Light has been ram-rodding the construction of a new 12 mile telephone line from Mariposa to Usona. We have 20 CYA boys here which he is using in his work. The other day Casey mentioned that with K.P., sickness, injuries, Court, some coming and going etc., that 20 boys do not actually work out as it sounds. It reminded me of Deputy Raymond's story which he told several years ago at a training school, "Who does the work?".

Assistant Ranger Bill Shimer who unfortunately has the mumps at the present time is spear heading the addition to the barracks over at the Coulterville Station. In the very near future we will be starting the construction of a much needed 40 x 80 warehouse at Mariposa Headquarters. So long for now and we will plan on seeing some of you on your trips to Yosemite National Park.

Hank Arnold
Associate Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY NEWS

Telephone lines are being checked; brushing and discing has been started; the trucks are getting a new coat of bright red paint; the fruit trees have started to blossom; the birds are singing; Associate Ranger Nicholson at Coalinga has a new Studebaker; Dispatcher Don Moore is busy overhauling a car he swapped with Dick Rafferty; and in general Spring has come to Fresno County.

Installation of the new brick making machine at Friant has been completed and we expect to start manufacturing brick at once. In fact by the time this gets to press the first batch of brick should be well into the stages of being cured. Progress is slowly being made at our new headquarters at Sanger with the garage and warehouse completed, ramps and walks in, and the office laid out by the engineers.

During the past month Fresno County Headquarters entertained the Rangers, Associates, and Assistants of District IV at a two-day school. Many interesting topics were discussed and it is believed that the training will be beneficial to all who attended.

Being bashful we hate to admit it but we feel that something new in the line of first has been added to in Fresno County. One Saturday morning we were lucky enough to hear a radio broadcast featuring DeWitt Nelson, State Forester; Professor Madson, Director of Field Stations for University of California; and Dr. Hart, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine of University of California in a round table discussion. After hearing the broadcast we rushed to radio station KMJ in Fresno and had them make a wire recording of the program for use at a Range Improvement meeting later in the month. The recording went over big with the ranchers, Farm Advisor, and all concerned at the meeting. It was also used at the recent Ranger's School and has possibilities for other meetings.

In the hills west of Coalinga the Division of Fish and Game have installed quail guzzlers holding about 750 gallons of water. These will be handy when the fire season starts as they can be used as a supply of needed water in a rather dry area. Only trouble is we have to fill them up again once they

have been emptied.

We have received a communication from Assistant Ranger Oliver J. Denney, who incidentially is five foot five, length and breadth, telling us about the 353,000 acres with an assessed valuation of $162,170,000.03, numerous farms, thousands of camp cabins, oil wells, refineries, storage tanks, and pipe lines of high test crude oil and gas in the Westside Fire Protection District of Fresno County. He tells not of the excellent work in fire suppression but of how efficient they are in FIRE PREVENTION, having had only two minor fires this year, one an old shed which should have been torn down long ago and a truck fire. However, he and his crews do not take all the credit but give a lot to the residents of the area for the cooperation and care in handling of fire and highly inflammables. What a blessing it would be if all people in all areas could be made as fire conscious and cooperative as Denney's wards seem to be.

H. P. Tucker, Dispatcher

DISTRICT IV

During the past month we have had several small rains, a blessing to the grain farmers and stockmen. Grass, on the west side of the valley has a good start and with a few more showers, we will have an abundance of wild flowers, also, should have a crop of fat lambs.

Assistant Ranger Ford is working on the contact card system we are setting up in Kings County, for the purpose of locating water immediately on arrival at a fire, favorable reports are coming in from various ranchers contacted.

We are preparing a program of fire prevention for the schools to be put into practice during the month of March.

At headquarters, trucks are being over-hauled with replacement of three new water tanks. It is necessary to replace water tanks every few years on trucks used on the west side, due to the bad water in that vicinity. The office at Headquarters is being plastered and painted inside at the present time.

Following is a copy of a letter from the Farm Bureau to the Kings County Board of Supervisors:

"Board of Supervisors
Court House
Hanford, California

Gentlemen:

The Board of Directors of the Kings County Farm Bureau, after reviewing the Annual Fire Record for 1949 from C. E. Lindley, Associate State Forest Ranger, wish to take this opportunity to commend Mr. Lindley, and his efficiently trained personnel on their excellent work in Kings County.

It is competent public service such as this that creates substantial savings to the farmers of Kings County.

The Kings County Farm Bureau compliments the State Forestry Division on their splendid accomplishments and offers to cooperate in any way possible with their program of rural fire control.

Sincerely yours,
s/ Thomas A. Bettencourt, President
Kings County Farm Bureau"

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS IN DISTRICT IV

District IV's Associate Ranger Clayton Hickle, attending a Range Improvement meeting last week, had an embarrassing moment or two when he opened "his" briefcase to get his speech. All he found were color cards and paint brushes. He had picked up by mistake the equipment of District Painter Walker. For a moment Clayton wished he could have impersonated the "Old Master Painter" of song fame, as the Deputy State Forester was attending his meeting to familiarize himself with Hickle's progress.

DISTRICT V - SAN BENITO COUNTY

All right, we've been busy!!

No, really, we're sorry that our county hasn't sent anything to News Letter for almost a year. Of course, we've got a reason, and it's this:

We have just finished construction on a twelve-man high standard barracks. This barracks is a four room job with recreation room, bath, supply, and dormitory. The interior is finished with textured plasterboard, and all in all, is something we can be justly proud of.

Prior to completion of our barracks, our county helped post war carpenters to construct a ranger's residence. This all necessitated re-doing the service yard and road system at our Hollister Headquarters station. Close to 300 tons of rock has been hauled in and construction of rock walls is still under way. For people not familiar with the Hollister Fire Control Station, it is built on top of a hill located in the center of Hollister. Being built on top of a hill, this necessitated much terracing to hold and make the side hill suitable for building. This rock wall is fast making the Headquarters Station a thing of great beauty.

In addition, we have with our own men completed an extension on our double-decked warehouse. The upper level is used for badly needed warehouse space, and the lower level for storing automotive equipment.

Also, we have moved into our new dining hall. This is a separate 5-room two-story unit with cook's quarters and bath, plus food storage in the basement.

With our own men and $2500 minor construction money, we have also completed construction of a 4-bay garage at the Panoche Fire Control Station. This station has also been planted with fruit trees including peaches, plums, apples, pears, and cherries.

At the Bitterwater Fire Control Station we have completed digging a 45-foot well and installing pump and 10,000 gallon redwood tank. A pump and tank house are now in the process of completion. Thanks to Deputy Callaghan's offer of fence posts, this station has also been fenced with five strands of wire.

At the Pinnacles Fire Control Station our crews have completed the digging of a 145-foot well plus installation of pump and 10,000 gallon tank. As in Bitterwater, we are in the process of building a tank and pump house to put over the tank and pump. The well at this and Bitterwater Station were drilled by a professional well driller.

Our Equipment Operator Edgar Young has just completed excavation for the proposed new equipment storage shed at Hollister, and is now in the process of excavating for the installation of underground gasoline storage tanks (for which all material is on hand, i.e. tanks and pumps) and for installation of septic tanks at our Bitterwater and Pinnacles Fire Control Stations. Upon the installation of the two above gasoline tanks, we will have underground installations in every station in San Benito County. This will make for quite a saving both in the cost of gasoline in bulk and doing away with repairs resulting from using gas taken to camps in drums. No matter what care is taken with these drums, a certain amount of dirt and condensation will always result. Pinnacles Fire Control Station has also been fenced in with sheep wire.

Our fire occurrence dropped again last year with a total of 86 fires for the year. The acreage was slightly higher with a total of 1900 acres.

The personnel throughout San Benito County has been rather prolific of late. Doyle Riddell, Fire Truck Driver, was a father to a boy. Marion "Red" Hall likewise. Lorin Frietas, Foreman, was father to a girl.

We also had Foreman Lawrence Young surprise us and go out and marry a former High School girl friend. Larry and Lou have since moved to Hollister and Lou has begun to find out about the inner workings of that "strange" bunch from the Forestry.

San Benito has got a new crew truck, stakeside, sedan, and two pickups during the past year. One of those pickups being a "Santa Clara County Special." THANK YOU GEORGE BRITTON.

Well, you can see now why we haven't written to News Letter as of late. We'll try to keep our end up in the future.

John P. Wade, State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT V 5-YEAR FIRE PLAN

Beginning February 7 and lasting through February 10, four days and nites were spent in District V office in Monterey. The brains and brass from all districts in the state were assembled to review the fire plan presented by the rangers of District V.

The first day, Rangers Willard Austin and Al Gossett presented their requests. The second day brought on John Wade and Les Gum, third day George Britton and the fourth day Deputy Strickland presented the District Office

requests.

All in all, much good was attained. Thoughts toward equalization of the work load in Ranger Districts were discussed, an equipment plan was put together. Thought was given and plans made regarding the type of barracks, residences, equipment shed, and warehouse needed. The above thoughts were initiated by the ranger who came in from the field to lay his thoughts before the deputy. It is believed that sound planning will evolve from this type of presentation.

Each night when the meeting was adjourned (11:30 P.M.) a fish feed and a bowling tournament were enjoyed. At the time of this writing Deputy Callaghan is Champ, closely pursued by Deputy Metcalf. Associate Steele gave a demonstration of skilled bowling showing the technique of rolling the ball the length of the alley and "missing" the pins.

District IV personnel should ask to see Deputy Metcalf's single bit axe with which he conducted the meeting (with blood on the blade). Sacramento office should ask to see Jarvis' progress report.

IT'S ALL GOOD!!

William Steele
Associate Ranger

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Seems as tho each time Santa Cruz County digs up something for the News Letter we head our contribution off with news of a new arrival - SO ---

On February 15, 1950, a wee Intermediate-Clerk by the name of Michele Lynn arrived to make her home with Don and Nancy Benjamin. Don is the Dispatcher in the Felton Office.

"Dr." V. Rylander wields a wicked scalpel. He has just finished carving a Headquarters sign 4 x 8 feet 4 inches thick - a redwood slab. Beautiful.

Foreman Al Day's ark - the bulldozer ramp - is under construction. Not much for looks but hell for strength. A collection is being taken for Petunia seeds hoping the flowers will make it look more artistic.

Other projects under way include the following: Corralitos - new septic tank and sewer system. Big Creek - 10,000 gallon water tank with automatic pumping system for fire protection. Burrell - work resumed on leveling and drainage for sewer and water system. Felton - material is now arriving for the new Butler equipment shed.

Schedule "A" drivers have been busy all winter at Felton headquarters on overhaul-painting and maintenance of motorized equipment and portable pumps.

Oh yeah! Spring is here. The annual rainfall has been pumped out of the basement of the Ranger's residence.

At last, but not least - the yearly training school starts on April 24, 1950.

Les Gum, State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI

We welcome to our staff Don Russell who, as of March 1, transferred from Monterey District to fill Assistant Ranger vacancy left by Mike Schori in San Diego County.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Construction is going forward, and in fact, is ahead of schedule on the new Anza Fire Control Station. Foundations for the building have been poured, forms have been removed, and it is estimated that the building is approximately half completed.

At the present time, the construction project at the new Elsinore Fire Control Station site is being held up pending receipt of construction materials. All preliminary work has been completed.

After encountering several delays due to weather conditions, work has been completed on the warehouse yard at Perris Headquarters. Installation of the black-top paving materially adds to the general appearance of the grounds in addition to eliminating dust.

General maintenance and reconditioning work on fire control equipment is in progress in the Perris Headquarters Shop. Four units have been completely repainted and several more are scheduled for painting.

The Communications Department has completed the major portion of a new cable installation job which is approximately 800 feet in length. The cable which consists of 16 pairs will connect the dispatching office with the present remote receiver installation and the new FM Transmitter installation. This cable will facilitate more positive control over the receivers, in addition to the new FM Transmitter when it is installed. Only detailed hook-up work is necessary to be accomplished in order to finish this project.

Waldo J. Sherman
Associate Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

We experienced a disastrous fire recently when the main building of the Cucamonga Pioneer Winery was destroyed. One company employee was burned to death after being trapped by fire. An interesting sight was the estimated 1,000,000 gallons of wine flowing like a small river. The Santa Fe Railway Company had to call out men and equipment to keep the flow from washing out their main line. Bulldozers were used to keep the flow channeled. Believe it or not, no one from our department brought home even a jug full, although our fire trucks hiccoughed all the way home just from the carburetor inhaling the fumes.

W. W. Skinner, Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County's Annual Forestry Dinner-Dance was held on Tuesday night, February 21, at Casper's Ranch Club in El Cajon. Honored guests at the occasion were Associate Ranger and Mrs. "Len" Chatten, and Assistant Ranger

and Mrs."Mike" Schori.

Len is leaving San Diego County on March 1st to accept a Ranger appointment in Sacramento as the new Training Officer. Mike leaves us to accept the Associate Ranger position in Placer County, with headquarters in Auburn. We all hate to see the Chattens and the Schoris leave us, but we wish them lots of luck in their new locations.

Now back to the party - which seemed to be a "howling" success, in the opinion of the 67 ladies and gentlemen who attended. Delicious steak and chicken dinners were enjoyed by all and an evening of dancing and fun followed. Vocal music (?) was furnished by a few of the "boys" who came to the party stag. Well 'nuff said, it was a wonderful party and we're all looking forward to next year already.

RAINBOW CDC CAMP

Rainbow gets a new look! Yes, Rainbow has a new look. All the buildings, all ten of them, have been painted outside and are now in the process of being painted inside. Also, new uniform lamps are being installed over each bed as the barracks are being painted. The painting project is being done by five of the inmates and is expected to be finished about the middle of March.

CARBON - TETRACHLORIDE DANGER EMPHASIZED

(The following is a copy of letter from J. H. Neles of the M & E Manufacturing Company of Indianapolis to Chief Joe R. Yockers, State Fire Marshal:)

"If this letter will be of any value to your office and the personnel in the field who use "Carbon-Tetrachloride" either in a commercial establishment or around home, please be advised that you have my permission to use same if it will help spare any other person the ill effects which we had the unhappy and costly experience of going through.

"In our apartment we have "modern" furniture, so we decided to clean the fabric in order to keep this looking bright and also to prevent moths from attacking same. In this apartment we have what I thought was plenty of ventilation, with windows facing each other and plenty of draft passing through.

"I poured a portion of the gallon of "Carbon-Tetrachloride" in a dish pan, and started to wash the fabric with same. I was in direct contact with it for just about 15 minutes, using a clean rag to wash the surface. The fumes were a little strong, but did not seem to bother me. We removed the chairs to the outside to thoroughly dry. Thirty minutes later they were brought back into the room with no trace of the odor. One of the two reasons why this product was used, the other being the lack of fire hazard.

"That evening we lit the oven to cook a roast, in a very short time the fumes were so strong in the house that we both left the room. All the windows were still open and plenty of San Francisco's fresh air was passing through and the fumes soon disappeared. We had our dinner but noticed a slight taste in the meat resembling the odor of the chemical but not enough to warrant destroying it.

"Everything was alright until the following evening when my wife became ill. She went to bed and started to vomit and continued to do so all of that night.

At 11 P.M. that same evening I too became suddenly ill, with the same symptoms. This went on for two days and three nights. We thought we had contacted a stomach flu. Finally we called our family physician. Had I thought to tell him what I had been doing, we would have been in the hospital sooner, but I never thought of this causing the trouble.

"Finally, I was taken to the French Hospital where the Doctors ordered a blood count; in a few minutes the young interne came into my ward and wanted to know what kind of chemicals I was in contact with. It then became apparent to me that maybe that "Carbon-Tetrachloride" was the culprit and was causing my illness.

"As soon as my physician found this out, they went to work with all their resources as this chemical had destroyedd all the red blood corpuscles, and had caused my kidneys to stop functioning.

"Needless to say what happened from there on out. Blood transfusions, intravenous solutions, oxygen, laboratory, and finally in order to save my life, a new kind of surgery.

"I wish to go on record in saying that if it were not for the untiring efforts of Dr. Forrest M. Willett of the Stanford and French Hospital and his wonderful selection of prominent doctors and help of the Almighty, I would not have been around to warn other people of the terrible dangers that go along with the use of this chemical.

"Forty-five (45) days in the hospital, plus an untold amount of suffering and the terrific cost involved should be warning enough for any one to use nothing but the utmost care when in contact with this chemical. If you were allowed to read the Doctor's report on this case, I am sure that Dr. Willett, who is an authority on this kind of poisoning, would give the State this information, if requested. It would scare you to the point whereas nothing but the utmost precaution would be exercised by all who use and handle this dry cleaning chemical.

"I, for one, believe your Department is doing one of the finest services in promoting the safe use of "Carbon-Tetrachloride" and its importance of proper ventilation, and I know the public will appreciate your efforts."

The California Division of Forestry
News Letter is published monthly in
Sacramento for and by Division personnel.
Its pages contain current facts, problems,
and events relating to forestry and to the
experiences of Division personnel.

DeWitt Nelson — State Forester
William H. Fairbank — Editor
Frances Skewes — Assistant Editor
Cover by Mary Young — Receptionist
Department of Natural Resources

—MARCH VOL. 9 - NO. 3

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

---


| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Mary Young | Receptionist |

Department of Natural Resources

S.A.F. SECTION ELECTION

Northern California Section of the Society of American Foresters has elected Regional Forester Perry A. Thompson as Chairman; Richard Roseberry of Diamond Match Company, Stirling City, Vice Chairman; and Tom H. Harris of Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Berkeley, Secretary-Treasurer. Results were announced at Bay Area Sub-section meeting in San Francisco March 21.

Administrative Digest
March 22, 1950

EFFICIENCY OUTRANKS GLAMOR

What a boss really wants in his "Gal Friday" is that she be neat, accurate, dependable, a conservative dresser, a ready smile, and a good sense of humor. He is not interested in how tight that pink angora sweater should fit, at least not in the office. Lack of punctuality irks him more than anything else. Gum chewing, sloppy appearance, inefficiency, excessive smoking, lack of originality and stupidity are also frowned upon. These disclosures came from a survey of 1000 business men by Woodbury College in Los Angeles.

The secretaries were also polled. They said they could stand more leadership, intelligence, understanding, tact and cooperation from the boss. The outstanding personality trait they looked for in acquiring a boss was a sense of humor, plus charm, a nice smile and neatness. Pet peeves? The girls had lots of them. The boss is too demanding, has a bad temper, doodles, dictates too rapidly, has no conception of time, thinks he's always right, jumps to conclusions, forgets - and, gosh, those awful cigars and pipes!

—(A.P. story in Oakland Tribune)

REDWOOD TREE FARMS TO BE SPONSORED BY CALIFORNIA REDWOOD ASSOCIATION

California Redwood Association announced recently that redwood region tree farms will be sponsored and certified by the Association. Johnson indicated that there is nothing exclusive in the sponsorship of tree farms in the redwood region by the California Redwood Association. Certificates will be available to non members as well as members, and other species of trees as well as redwood, in the redwood region. There will be no limit in area. Tree farm certificates will be available to private timber owners, both small and large.

"While the Association will have the direct responsibility of certifying tree farms in the redwood region, it will work in close association with the State Division of Forestry and other Organizations." Johnson said that no date had been set at the moment for the certification of the first redwood tree farm under the Association's program.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

The Division of Forestry's 1950-51 budget, approved this month by the State Legislature is summarized as follows:

| Description | Approved Legislation |
|---|---|
| General Support | $7,629,084 |
| Direct allotment to cooperating counties for prevention and suppression of forest fires on State Responsibility lands | 595,066 |
| Direct allotment to U. S. Department of Agriculture for prevention and suppression of forest fires on private and state-owned lands located within and adjacent to the boundaries of U. S. National Forests | 498,206 |
| Forest Land Survey in cooperation with the California Forest and Range Experiment Station of U. S. Department of Agriculture | 77,000 |
| Watershed research at San Dimas Experimental Forest in cooperation with California Forest and Range Experiment Station of U. S. Department of Agriculture | 24,000 |
| White Pine Blister Rust Control | 168,437 |
| Emergency Fire Suppression | 240,000 |
| Pine Beetle Control | 25,000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | $9,256,793 |

The 1950-51 proposed postwar construction budget is, this month, in the hands of the Public Works Board for approval.

During the month purchase orders were issued to Ford Motor Company for 35 chassis with cabs equipped with two-speed axles. These vehicles will subsequently be built up into combination tank-crew trucks. They will be equipped with 150 gallon per minute pumpers, will carry 200 gallons of water, and will provide seating capacity for 8 men. Purchase orders have also been issued to the International Harvester Company for fifteen chassis and cabs that are to be built up as fire trucks with 250 gallon per minute pumps and 400 gallon water storage tanks. The Division awaits delivery this month of seven D-7 caterpillar tractors. The delivery of eleven Ford stakeside trucks has been delayed due to difficulties encountered in the installation of special auxiliary brakes. Two tilt bed trailers have been completed and delivered to the Division and it is expected that two more will be received within thirty days.

Build-up work was completed this month on a two-wheel trailer equipped to carry a radio repeater with receiving power generating facilities. Tests have been made with this mobile repeater station and results are gratifying. The Division contemplates the construction of six of these units that will be used to improve communication facilities on large campaign fires.

The Federal Communications Commission has asked that the Division vacate present radio channels by April 15 in Southern California and for the balance of the State by July 1. The change of frequency poses a difficult problem of considerable magnitude. It is estimated that the conversion of radio sets to new frequency channels will cost approximately $10,000. The conversion job, consisting of replacement of crystals and other parts, is presently underway in Southern California with a tentative

completion date of April 15. Technicians will move from this district north and it is hoped that the job in all districts will be completed by July 1.

Preseason work was underway in all districts preparatory to the opening of fire season. Training sessions continued during the month. Emphasis is being placed state-wide in preseason hazard reduction work and the initiation of educational efforts in the field of fire prevention. Plans were tentatively prepared for a May meeting of the California Fire Prevention Committee, a citizens group organized by this Division three years ago now consisting of more than 150 large industries, governmental organizations, community agencies, and promotional groups. Fire prevention educational campaign materials have been prepared, printed, and distributed to the field. Division of Forestry fire prevention roadside signs are presently being prepared for delivery to the field on or about May 1. There will be 400 such roadside signs placed again this year throughout the Division of Forestry Responsibility Area.

In the four northern districts repeated contacts were made this month with ranch owners and with ranch groups who contemplate the use of fire during the summer months as a tool of land management. Considerable experimentation and interest is being demonstrated in many sections in the use of mechanical equipment and chemical sprays for removal of brush vegetation.

The Range Advisory Committee to the Board of Forestry will meet during April to consider improvements of range improvement programs. The State Board of Forestry's April meeting will devote a full day to the consideration to the range improvement problem. It will be held at the Davis Campus of the University of California.

Insect control activities have had to be stepped up considerably on two projects in the State. Unseasonably warm weather this spring is causing the bark beetles to emerge much sooner than they normally do. The situation at the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park demanded an increased endeavor to keep pace with the insects and to complete the control by mid April, when the adult beetles are expected to be completely emerged. Some 75 men are employed at the present time on this Forestry-Parks cooperative project. Over 200 trees were treated by the end of March with some 150 more needing treatment. Dangerous Santana wind conditions at the outset of April have complicated the problem making it necessary to cease all burning and resort to chemical treatment.

The Cobb-Boggs Mountain project in Lake County experienced almost similar circumstances. Besides early flying of the beetles more infested trees than originally anticipated have showed up. Some 600 trees were treated by the end of March with about 400 trees remaining to be done by April 30. Plans are underway, in cooperation with the Federal Insect Laboratory, to conduct a chemical spray experiment of standing and felled trees to determine the effectiveness and cost of such treatment in comparison to burning methods.

The State Nursery at Davis has recently finished the laying of water lines and three Skinner overhead sprinkling systems. This is part of the program to change the nursery practices from costly hand methods

to those of mechanized operation. This sprinkler system is designed to allow wheel tractor preparation of soil, seeding and weeding of beds, root pruning and lifting of stock in addition to its primary purpose of irrigating and shading nursery stock by water spray. The area under this sprinkling system will be seeded early in April. The nursery will produce from these seedbeds large quantities of cheap seedling stock principally of hardwood species for soil erosion control, farm windbreaks, and public planting purposes.

Favorable weather conditions during the month were helpful to the Division's construction program. Satisfactory progress was made on the Healdsburg equipment building, barracks and mess hall facilities and work started on new facilities at Booneville in District I. District III construction of equipment buildings at West Point, Dew Drop and Murphys was nearing completion and satisfactory progress was made on the barracks-mess hall and equipment building at El Dorado. Ranger residences at Sonora and Sutter Hill were nearing completion and probably will be ready for occupancy by May. The employment of additional artisans accelerated construction on the Devore Fire Control Station in District VI. On receipt of materials, construction work at Elsinore and Potrero will be initiated in April in this district.

PERSONNEL CHANGES AND APPOINTMENTS

Leonard Chatten, Associate Ranger San Diego County, to Sacramento Office as State Forest Ranger in charge of training.

Herbert Kaufner, Farm Forestry Technician in District II to District I to take over Forest Practice work.

George Grogan, Assistant Technician at the Latour Forest promoted to Forest Technician.

Forestry Work Project Supervisors in charge of prison camps are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Harold C. Rolland | Parlin Ford, District I |
| Neil Edmonds | Magalia, District II |
| William E. Merle | District III |
| John N. Clark | Miramonte, District IV |
| Charles W. Wilcher | Slack Canyon, District V |
| Richard Groninger | Oakglen, District VI |

Ronald Adams Forest Technician in charge of Davis Nursery.

Assistant Construction Inspectors for the building program are:

Wesley V. Post - District I
Vernon Messick - Transferred from Sacramento to District II
William Heil - District III
Raymond Didier - District IV
Warren Younger - District V
Louis Taurman - has been working in District VI for some time.

John Pedlar, Assistant Technician in Range Improvement in Sacramento Office.

Jerry Reinecker, Assistant Ranger Yuba County to Associate Ranger in El Dorado County to fill a vacancy when Francis Bradford transferred to San Luis Obispo County as Assistant Ranger.

Michael Schori, Assistant Ranger in San Diego County to Associate Ranger in Placer County.

Donel L. Russell, Assistant Ranger in Monterey County to Assistant Ranger San Diego County.

Harold Stella to assist Mr. Walt Moe in stock room in Sacramento Office.

EL DORADO COUNTY NEWS

What with rain, snow, changes in personnel and a heavy construction program, El Dorado County missed the boat last month in not submitting any news to the News Letter.

The Welcoming Committee has been busy this month. As newcomers we have Mrs. Sarah Tansey our new clerk, Foreman Dale Berger who comes to us from CDC in Placer County, and Jerry Reinecker, who comes to us from Yuba County. Jerry was Assistant Ranger in Yuba and has taken over the Associate Ranger position here. Francis Bradford who was Associate here has transferred to San Luis Obispo.

The construction at El Dorado Station is progressing rapidly and has reached the stage where the weather no longer interferes with the work. Work is also underway on the north side in preparing a spike camp for CYA who will be working under Assistant Ranger Schuckert on the new Pilot Peak Lookout and telephone line. At the present time Earl Barron is brushing out the right of way with CDC crews and personnel.

M.S. Dixon
State Forest Ranger

AMADOR RANGER HAS FIRE IN NEW RESIDENCE

Don't be alarmed by the above heading - the fire was in the handsome, rock-faced fireplace in Ranger Phibbs' new residence. It is an indication of the progress made but was primarily to burn off the paint on the heatilator unit. The test proved highly satisfying as the fireplace gave out plenty of heat. The rooms are about ready for painting, and construction of the garage is now underway also. We notice, too, that George is devoting part of his weekends to getting his garden started - rock garden, that is.

Currently enjoying the "winter sports" at our Dew Drop Station are Foremen Rolfe, Freeman and Dal Porto, who are preparing the station for a Bureau of Entomology school for Blister Rust Control employees late in April. The occasional snowfalls up there make it difficult to realize the 1950 fire season is only a couple of months away.

We do not necessarily believe "The customer is always right," but we had a recent instance in which this proved true. Failing to receive

certain material on a purchase order we wrote the vendor on November 4, 1949. From that date until March 17 the U. S. Mails increased in volume as we and the vendor corresponded fluently. Finally we received the following message from the vendor:

"It seems our shipping department needs a shot in the head or something. We are definitely shipping the material on your order today via parcel post. We sincerely regret the inconvenience this matter has caused and will endeavor to correct this deficiency in our shipping department immediately."

This should be heartening to other counties where vendors' delays in shipping materials hold up projects.

Vernon Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

RANCHERS EXPERIMENT WITH CHEMICALS FOR BRUSH REMOVAL

Several of the ranchers in Amador County have applied 2-4-D and 2-4-5-T spray mixtures to brush areas recently. About three hundred acres have been sprayed to date. Both a plane and a helicopter were used in the work. All different species of brush in the county have been sprayed on the various areas treated. The various ranchers doing the work are aware that it may not work but are willing to spend some money to find out. They even cooperate to the extent of trying various concentrations. We are keeping a record of the stage of growth, the weather conditions, and the concentrations used in an attempt to learn more about this method of brush control. Diesel fuel has been used throughout as a carrying agent.

On the areas that were sprayed on the 20th of March a marked effect is apparent on the foliage of nearly all species. However, what the results will be over a one or two year period remain to be seen.

It is interesting to note that in all cases the ranchers who have been active in trying to clear land by use of fire are the same ones who are now trying for control of brush by chemicals.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY NEWS

Fresno County was full of activity during the month of March. During Conservation Week approximately three thousand students and adults were contacted, shown motion pictures with talks, and given fire prevention instruction and conservation literature. A "Show Me" trip was personally conducted through headquarters by Ranger Bengard for about sixty students from Easterly School. The Ranger, Associates and Assistants attended a two day training school in Mariposa County where much valuable information was obtained and exchange of ideas made.

Considerable telephone line work has been done on the Copper Peak-Black Mountain and Copper Peak - Collins Corners lines, and agreements

are out for new right-of-way on Sand Creek Telephone Line. The Hurley well house floor and foundation has been poured and we are now ready to go ahead with construction. Approximately 100 miles of roadside have been disced throughout the County, all roads in the Coalinga Area and one road in Kings County have been graded, and a dozer line has been completed on Juniper Ridge. The Ranger's house and garage at Sanger have been staked out and advance landscaping is being done.

Ranger Bengard, Assistant Ranger Slinkard, Mr. Gruenwald of the Army Engineers, and the Project Manager at the Pine Flat Dam Site, surveyed the working areas at the dam in order that plans may be made for fire prevention during construction period. It is planned to construct fire lines, and when ground cover is ready, to burn off an area of about 200 to 400 yards outside each working area. All roads leading into the area are to be fireproofed. The contractors have agreed to do this work under CDF supervision. We were assured full cooperation by both the Army Engineers and the contractors. Due to the interest of the public in this project it is expected that there will be a great number of people looking over the dam job thus creating a fire hazard and every effort will be made to leave no loopholes.

Associate Ranger Nicholson reports that all discing was completed in five days in the Coalinga Area. The Minn. Moline wheel tractor was used in the flat country and the HD-7 in the hills. The road grading was a little more difficult as the grader, being slightly on the large size, had trouble navigating turns which even pickups have to bend to make. Nick thinks a hinge in the middle of this instrument of torture would be beneficial, especially when the blade dug into the bank and threw the rear wheels out over a canyon with anywhere from 15 to 300 foot drop. Silent prayers were offered and answered and the work completed without more than a scare and a few bruises. THEN, the rains came and probably some creek crossings will have to be done over. Looks like shovel work will be the order now. However this should put the crew in fine physical condition for what looks like a potentially bad fire season because of the excellent stand of grass.

Fresno County Headquarters was thrown for a real loss during the month when our Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk Lenore Arman was transferred from Forestry to the C.Y.A. office in Fresno. For eight years, lacking one month, Lenore was the sunshine of our Monday mornings, the cheerfulness needed to help meet many problems, and efficiency that can hardly be surpassed. We threw a little farewell party and the gloom was quite evident because of loosing such a good pal. But we all wish Lenore a most pleasant time in her new position and we are sure she will be as well liked there as she was with us.

H. P. Tucker, Dispatcher

MARIPOSA COUNTY

The site has been picked, leveled and the trenches dug for the foundation on the much needed 40' x 80' warehouse at Mariposa Headquarters. All but 1½ miles of brushing the 50' right of way is completed between Mariposa and Usona Station. With good luck we will have good communications between these two stations for the coming year.

The roadside discing is going full blast with the machine operating steadily during daylight hours. (2shifts) and pulling two global discs. Ranger Hufford is the gentleman who figured out this tandem setup and is he proud. It looks like we have a large control burning program ahead of us this year. The ranchers are quite interested and the outlook is for plenty of grass to carry the burns after the rain of on the 8th and 9th of April which left three inches of moisture.

Mariposa County was host to a very interesting Assistant Ranger's School on March 16 and 17th. Much of the time was taken up on Fire Control Methods and Administration.

Clarence Tedrow, FEO is back to work after a bade siege of penumonia. Ted was off nearly a month. William Shimer, Assistant Ranger had a tussel with the mumps and for awhile looked much the worse for wear and tear. Bill is back on the job now after a month's absence and full of vim and vigor.

G. R. Light
Assistant Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

The last two weeks in March found us stranded. C. E. Lindley was compelled to take 10-days sick leave and Richard T. Ford was ordered to Military Training for 15 days. A Fire Prevention Program was scheduled in the schools, films to be shown, talks to be made, etc. Bill Pennington, State Ranger in Tulare County, came to the rescue. Associate State Forest Ranger, Hansen, appeared to help us out at the appointed time and gave us a big hand with our school program. Thanks a million Tulare County.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES



MAY 29 1950

APRIL - VOL. 9 - NO. 4

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Mild spring weather turned warm during the last week of April and was accompanied by strong drying winds in many parts of the State. Several fires were experienced in the area below the Tehachapi Mountains, one burning more than 400 acres in San Diego County. There was a sudden shift of weather the first of May, however, and rain fell in all parts of the State altho very scattered in the Southern San Joaquin Valley and Southern California.

The well-distributed winter rains and warm spring have been most conducive to heavy growth of grass in most parts of the State. The State Department of Agriculture and livestock associations report that grass forage conditions for livestock in all areas, except the southern San Joaquin Valley and Southern California, are the best they have been in years. By the first of May this heavy mantle of grass vegetation was turning brown and drying rapidly alerting the Division to the possibilities of early grass fires.

Fire suppression stations were manned in Southern California on April 15. Stations will be opened in Northern California on May 1. It is anticipated that Division crews will be at full strength by June 1.

Field forces focused attention this month on spring cleanup, hazard reduction, and roadside right-of-way clearance work preparatory to the summer season. Division men had many contacts with ranchers and land owners interested in improving range conditions thru the use of control fire. The two special standby range improvement crews, authorized by the Legislature in 1949, will be activated on or about May 1. The men making up these crews will go thru a special training course at Davis and will be ready for field action by the latter part of May. These two crews are to be used on range improvement projects state wide.

Plans were laid this month for a meeting of the California Fire Prevention Committee on June 1 and 2. The Committee is made up of more than 150 industrial, business, promotional, and governmental agencies. Using a variety of informational media, committee members assist government protection forces in disseminating information concerning hazards of forest fires. There is every indication that this year's fire prevention educational campaign will be the most intensive to date. In addition to the usual press, radio, television, and motion picture theatre publicity, the Committee and the fire protection forces of the State intend to circulate more than three million pieces of literature, post 400 especially constructed roadside fire prevention signs, and capitalize on dozens of major business outlets that will carry the fire prevention message to the people of the State.

In addition to vigorous fire hazard reduction work, Division field personnel intensified the preseason educational program thru many public contacts, group meetings, school programs, and press publicity.

Construction of replacement automotive fire equipment continued at a rapid rate this month. State Metal Fabricators Inc. have completed construction of fifty pieces of fire equipment consisting of both fire trucks and crew trucks. These are being delivered to the Division and will soon be distributed to ranger units. The Caterpillar Tractor Company expects to deliver seven bulldozers by June 1. Four tilt bed trailers have been delivered to the Division by the Foster

Trailer Company. Truck tractors for these trailers are expected soon from the G.M.C. and White Motors Company. Fabrication and assembly of 35 crew trucks were started this month by Ford Motor Company at its Richmond Plant. Delivery of 15 International trucks that will be converted into 400 gallon fire trucks was anticipated in May.

The technical staff at Sacramento during April gathered much valuable information concerning forest legislation, forest management, developments in fire control, and forest surveys in California for the American Forestry Association. This Association is assembling this information to determine trends in American forestry nation wide since the completion of the last major national forestry appraisal made by the Association in 1944. It is expected that the results of the present survey will be released some time in the fall.

Memo to Nelson

During the month radio technicians completed the modification of radio equipment in the Southern California area to a new frequency channel. The change was necessitated when frequency channels formerly used by the Division were taken over by the railroads. The San Joaquin and South Coastal Districts will be converted next and the north districts later.

Forest practice inspections greatly increased during the month as accessibility to mill sites and timber operating areas improved. In the North Coast District alone more than 304 mill inspections and 76 logging inspections have been made to date. Forest Advisory technicians made many valuable contacts during the month supplying information involving tree planting, the establishment of tree farms, and clarification of timber contracts.

Insect control work in the established zones of infestation was rapidly drawing to a close this month. Field crews eliminated the use of fire in control methods during the month because of the fire danger. Control work continues, however, thru the use of chemical sprays.

Construction progress by district was as follows:

District I:
Healdsburg fire control station 80% complete.
Boonville fire control station 30% complete.
Parlin Ford C.D.C. Camp should be practically complete by June 30th deadline.

District II:
Shasta County equipment building at Redding 95% complete.
Susanville ranger garage 75% complete.
Magalia C.D.C. Camp should be ready for occupancy by June 30.

District III:
El Dorado fire control station 80% complete.
Marysville warehouse and equipment building 90% complete.
Sutter Hill ranger residence 85% complete.
Sonora ranger residence 80% complete.
West Point and Murphy's fire control station equipment buildings practically complete.

District IV:
Fresno County Sanger headquarters equipment building and warehouse complete, pump house under construction.
Miramonte C.D.C. camp ready for occupancy on or before June 30.

District V: King City office about 75% complete and work starting on equipment buildings.
San Luis Obispo office remodeling 90% complete.
Slack Canyon C.D.C. Camp should be ready for occupancy by June 30.

District VI: Devore fire control station 80% complete and construction started at Elsinore fire control station. After considerable difficulty in obtaining a satisfactory site construction is now started on the Oak Glen C.D.C. Camp.

PLAQUE PRESENTED TO GENERAL GEORGE MARSHALL

In late March Chief Watts of the Forest Service and Joe Kaylor, Maryland, President of State Foresters Association, presented General George Marshall with a plaque thanking him for the aid of the Red Cross in preventing forest fires.

PERSONNEL CHANGES:

James Denny, District II, Dispatcher appointed as Assistant Forest Technician in forest advisory work in District II.

Cecil Eden, Forest Fire Fighter, Orange County, appointed to Assistant Forest Technician at the Nursery.

Dan Dotta, Assistant Forest Technician in District I in range improvement appointed to Forest Technician at Mt. Home State Forest.

Ronald Adams is now full Technician in charge of the State Nursery.

John Hastings, Assistant Ranger, San Diego County, now Associate Ranger, Napa County.

William Jamieson, Associate Ranger, Napa County, transferred to San Diego County as an Associate Ranger.

DEPUTY STATE FORESTER FOWLER RETIRES

O. E. Fowler, veteran among the oldtimers, quietly left his desk last week to begin a well-earned retirement after thirty years of State service. In keeping with his desires there was no grand farewell party. Somehow, the occasion did not seem to call for speeches and gifts.

"Chick" Fowler spent most of his professional career with the California Division of Forestry (or State Board of Forestry) that would be beyond the conception of the younger employees of the Division today.

He came here from Missouri in 1905. In 1908-09 he worked at the Stockton Mental Hospital. In 1909 he went to work for the U. S. Forest Service on the Stanislaus Forest. Remember the Forest Service, as such, was created in 1905. He remained there until the spring of 1920 when he became a State Ranger. The responsibility of the State for fire protection was given impetus by the loss of vitally needed grain crops during the World War. A total budget of perhaps $20,000 had been painfully acquired. G. M. Homans was State Forester, soon to be succeeded by M. B. Pratt.

Fowler's ranger district was El Dorado, Amador, and Calaveras Counties and work consisted chiefly of trying to organize volunteer fire fighting groups. All summer the work consisted of heart-breaking firefighting with no thought of work, hours, or relief. His first winter was rewarded by a lay-off for lack of funds.

In 1921 Fowler was assigned to Sacramento where the headquarters office consisted of several rooms in the Forum Building. In the spring of 1922 and 1923 work was provided for the half dozen field men by contributions from women's clubs for roadside planting. In this manner shade trees were set out from Sacramento to Davis and Woodland and from Red Bluff to Corning.

Fowler took care of fire statistics, the compulsory patrol fee in the pine region, the old Weeks Law and Clarke-McNary records and general administrative duties. As the organization grew with increased public interest in fire protection and the relief camps of the depression years Fowler's responsibilities grew.

When the first short-lived districts were in operation during 1932 and 1933 the State Forester indicated his faith in Chick's well known integrity by charging him with the responsibility for the area from Yuba to Kern inclusive. Later he was the responsible agent for coordination of the thirty-two CCC Division Camps and the U. S. Forest Service. Then he handled the Operations Office where the budget had grown from a few thousand to several millions. In late years he has been on special project work in planning where his prodigious memory was of inestimable value.

Those who knew and worked with Fowler will remember most his unyielding integrity and sense of honesty and the memory for details that often put the file records to shame.

It is to be hoped that the firefighters and foresters of future generations will pause to learn something of a faithful public servant when they look upon that high monument to his memory — Fowler Lookout on Bear Mountain in Calaveras County.

ED

## THANKS TO DIVISION EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE WORK/ON THE FIRE PLAN REVISION COMMITTEE

As Chairman of the Fire Plan Revision Committee and for its members I wish to thank the many Division employees who have so faithfully worked on this plan. We are sure that when the plan is completed and has been reviewed by the State Forester and his staff it will be of great help to us in planning for the coming five-year period. It is gratifying to those of us who worked on the plan to observe the unselfish attitude of the Rangers and their staffs in regard to the overall program. Because of this help and approach we wish to thank everyone for their cooperation.

C. E. Metcalf, Chairman
Fire Plan Revision Committee 1949-50

## DIVISION DISPLAYS FIRE CONTROL TECHNIQUES AT RURAL FIRE MEETING

As part of the program of demonstrations exhibited at the California Rural Fire Association meeting in Merced, April 22, 1950, Division IV personnel presented a demonstration of brush and grass fire fighting. All demonstrations were

under the supervision and direction of the Department of Education, Bureau of Trade and Industrial Education.

A portion of a large field immediately in front of the grandstand at the fairground was set on fire and the various activities involved in controlling the blaze were described to the audience over a loud speaker system as the suppression action took place. The fire was "sized up" by the forest officer who arrived first, enabling him to properly start the crew and crew truck, next to arrive, in hot spotting and knocking-down operations. A fire truck next on the scene was placed to protect a makeshift structure which had been erected in the area.

Fire-line communications were maintained with Handie Talkies. A Handie Talkie was brought into the grandstand so that various members of the audience could hear the units in operation.

A bulldozer arrived on a tilt-bed trailer, was unloaded and put to work building a permanent line around the perimeter of the fire - now in its final stages. Unburned areas between the burned area and the dozer line were fired out and the entire area mopped up with the trucks and hand crew.

The whole operation created a highly impressive reaction from the general public in attendance. Few seemed to have realized the processes involved or the equipment necessary to control forest fires. It would seem that other demonstrations of this type where facilities and conditions permit could be of definite assistance in our prevention program.

L. R. Chatten
Training Officer

THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED BY DEPUTY C. E. METCALF RECENTLY:

"Dear Cecil:

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to you for making available manpower and equipment from your district, and to the men who were detailed to Merced my sincere thanks for their splendid cooperation and assistance in making Demonstration Day of the California Rural Fire Association meeting a success.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely

/s/ Tom Ward

THOMAS S. WARD
Supervisor of Fire Training"

NEWS FROM DISTRICT II

There have been a few personnel changes here at District II Headquarters. James Denny, formerly Dispatcher, is now filling our Assistant State Forest Technician position as Forestry Advisor.

George Grogan has been promoted to Forest Technician. He was formerly Assistant Forest Technician.

Mildred Lewis, Intermediate Typist Clerk has resigned. This position has now been filled by Miss Norma Hislop.

If the weather we are now having is any indication, fire season will soon be upon us.

The landscaping of our headquarters grounds is proceeding under the direction of Paul Sischo. Several different species of plants and shrubs have been planted. As yet the lawn has not been put in but now the sprinkler system is now complete and work will soon be starting on the new lawn.

Associate Ranger Bromwell reports that the following employees attended the Forestry Equipment Operator School held at Whitmore from April 17th thru 21st: Assistant Ranger Ward - Tehama County; F.E.O. Cleland - Tehama County; F.E.O. Murrell - Butte County; F.E.O. Van Vleck - Butte County; F.E.O. Roberts - North Butte; F.E.O. Harris - Lassen County; Foreman Hubbard - Lassen County; F.E.O. Carr - Shasta County; F.E.O. Perkins - Shasta County; F.E.O. Hess - Shasta County; F.E.O. McFeely - C.Y.A.; F.E.O. Shaffer - Siskiyou County; Foreman Dooley - Siskiyou County; Foreman Brady - C.Y.A.; Project Supervisor Hunt - C.Y.A. The school was conducted at the C.Y.A. Camp at Whitmore.

Mr. Waklee of the Sacramento office attended one day of the school and brought with him Mr. Ivan Brown of the Issacson Company. Mr. Brown gave instructions on the maintenance and operation of the new blades and front end units on TD 18 tractors.

All those attending the school showed great interest and expressed a desire for another school to be held later this fall which will go into more detail on operation of motor patrols and road building.

Associate Ranger Bromwell, Mechanics Poston and Johnson and Assistant Ranger Enochson conducted the school.

Forest Technician Grogan reports the following regarding the aerial photo training school that was held in District II from March 13th to 17th inclusive.

Amid much talk, discussions, lectures and field demonstrations personnel attending were given a basic understanding of aerial photos and their use. After the first days lecture such terms as focal length, side lap, overlap, stereoscopy, tilt, R.F. and principal point. to mention only a few, were common expressions one might hear tossed about in "student" bull sessions.

Field work found those attending learning at first hand the use of a stereoscope and aerial photos on the demonstration area near Whitmore. How to mark section corners, how to tell logged over land from uncut forest land, brush land from timber, roads, hedges, etc. not to mention locating ones self on the photos, were some of the problems demonstrated in the field. In addition considerable time was spent on the use of aerial photos in fire control.

Those attending displayed a keen interest in the use of this comparatively new tool as an aid in their work.

Those attending were: Associate Rangers Atwood, Scholey, Swain, Lange and Lockhart; Assistant Rangers Enochson, Vardanega, Richardson, Hall and Henson; Forest Technician Sischo and Training Officer Chatten.

The instructors for the school were Forest Technician Sechrist of the Forest Manager's office in Sacramento; Assistant Deputy State Forester Moran and Forest Technician Grogan of the District II headquarters office.

Beverly McMillan
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

WHITMORE C.Y.A. CAMP

At this writing we are preparing to start construction on our LaTour road. This road will start about two miles from camp and give us a direct route to the heart of the LaTour State Forest and to our spike camp.

Equipment Operators Van Vleck and John Hess have arrived and along with McFeely are ready to start moving dirt as soon as the weather will permit. While waiting for a few more days of sunshine they are decking logs and poles in the woods so they can be hauled to camp when the roads dry out.

Our sawmill was started up on March 13th but since our personnel is limited, our Mill Foreman Carl (Bullpine) Hess is also the woods boss and spends part of the time with his mill crew in the woods, falling, limbing and bucking logs.

A crew of eight boys have been at Fawn Lodge Suppression Station for the past four weeks working on a telephone line project under Assistant Ranger Ralph Smith who used to be one of our C.Y.A. Foremen. Seems whenever Smitty has a tough job to do he wants a C.Y.A. crew. Seven miles of poles and anchors were set and everything is now ready for the wire to be strung out. The crew was taken to Weaverville to a show upon completion of the job by Assistant Rangers Smith and Tracy and Supervisors Ragland and Fox in appreciation of the fine work turned out on the job.

W. R. Hunt
Forestry Project Supervisor

TEHAMA COUNTY

Three years ago the Division was asked to participate in a joint program with the Mendocino National Forest. The purpose was to present a conservation program to the schools of Tehama and Glenn Counties. Since that first year our itinerary has been increased to include schools in Colusa County as far south as Arbuckle. It has taken on the aspects of a "combined operation" during these years. A few representatives of the Forest Service and a few from Tehama County Headquarters were sufficient for the first year. The reception of that year's program was such that we were asked to carry it to other schools and service clubs in the three counties. Since this involved District I, CDF office entered the picture. Thus, the 1950 conservation program was put on by representatives of two Ranger Districts of the Mendocino National Forest and of the Glenn-Tehama and Colusa-Lake offices of the CDF. Many of the schools were small with no facilities to show any films. We found it necessary to take with us several bundles of blankets and plenty of thumbtacks. Upon arrival at the schools all hands had to fall to in order to convert a veritable solarium to a dark enough room for

color movies. As we were scheduled for some sixty-odd schools, the program has had to reach the first schools in the latter part of February and continue thru most of March. This year's program started February 27th and was concluded on March 23rd. Participating in this year's "go-round" were E. L. (Doc) Turner, District Ranger, and Al Wooltee, Assistant Ranger, Paskenta District, Mendocino National Forest; Ralph A. (Rowdy) James, District Ranger, and Chas. Lafferty, FCA, Stonyford District, Mendocino National Forest; John Morrow, Assistant State Forest Ranger, Colusa County; Henry Moseley, Foreman Elk Creek Station, Glenn County; and the undersigned.

Perhaps one of the most unique features of this program is that while a considerable amount of cooperation on the part of all concerned is required, said cooperation has never been found wanting. Some of the films have been USFS others CDF. This year we had a CDF projector as well as one belonging to the USFS. This gave us a little lee-way on schedules as one could be set up at another school before the first was finished.

The film "Deer of California" was shown to all the schools and many of the service clubs. A total of 4,781 individuals approximately 80% of whom were children. If this doesn't make buck hunters out of a lot of people it will come as a great surprise. Also on the program was a USFS film entitled "It's No Picnic."

Seven miles of grounded line have been converted to metallic on our Red Bluff-Digger Butte Lookout phone line. Since nearly all the poles were set in lava formation, Assistant Ranger Delbert Ward and crew are fairly well qualified as powder monkeys.

A new switchborad is being installed at Red Bluff Headquarters. CORRECTION!!! At last "A", switchboard is being installed. Bets are now being taken on the length of time one will be able to talk before he is disconnected.

Rain has been rather scarce. Grass short or even non-existent in areas which were rather heavily covered last year. The present storm may help considerably. Higher elevations have had a fair rainfall, but much more is needed throughout this end of the Sacramento Valley.

Bradford R. Williams
Assistant State Forest Ranger

CALAVERAS COUNTY NEWS

With the advent of the fire season comes all the trials and tribulations of hiring, opening camps and lookouts, readying trucks and equipment and getting everything shipshape and at finger-tip control. With the plentiful rain we've had the grass is now quite high and thick and with the present sunny days, the drying out process is really rapid. Although we have been ahead of the game up to now, that old bugaboo "Fire" may find us and Kaput the whole works.

We've opened the Altaville camp with the first ten fire fighters and have it set up as a fire fighting training school for Calaveras County. These first ten men will terminate their instructions in two-weeks and then go on to staff other camps. As they leave the next bunch of men to be hired will replace them.

The training school is under the direction of Assistant Ranger Woods with Foreman Henry Black in charge of instructions and the camp.

Notwithstanding the fact that all the fire fighters were last year's men, they are being taught all the rudiments of firefighting again plus more advanced methods in all fire phases. Their curriculum also includes; pole and tree climbing, tree falling, basic phone line construction, truck operation (pumps, draughting), etc. Calaveras County is striving for perfection and we may use the slogan "MAKE CALAVERAS NIFTY IN 1950" as this years by-word.

In keeping with the tradition for the training and betterment of this county's personnel, we are proud to announce that the California State Department of Education, Fire Training Program has presented us all with the "CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT" for successfully completing 15 hours of instruction in the course "Use of Fire Apparatus and Equipment & Salvage Operations." The school was held at San Andreas Headquarters in conjunction with the San Andreas Volunteer Fire Department. Classes were held in the evening after work. These instructions, along with our weekly CDF training program have not only given us an insight into the other fellows job, from Rangers to firefighters, but has served to ready every member for the coming fire season, which from all indications will be a tough one.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR CALAVERAS

MARRIED: Driver CHUCK MCKIM and the former FAYE GORI of San Andreas. They eloped to Reno the 15th of April. The gang presented the happy couple with a toaster and all best wishes.

BORN: To Assistant Ranger and Mrs. JOHN JACKSON, a boy, Barry William Jackson, on April 21st. Barry, the Jacksons second son, weighed in at 6 lbs 8 oz. Congratulations.

PROMOTED: RAY HOUSTON to Foreman from FT Driver. DELBERT DIALS to FT driver from fire fighter. We are very happy to have been able to retain both of these fellows in our county. Good luck!

RELAXING: LEO CASSELL, Foreman. Under doctor's orders, he is taking a much needed rest. Looks good too.

BACK: And welcome, are Cooks DALEY AND REED. Also Lookouts HILL, WILSON, AND BRAUNER.

ADDED: To the Foreman staff FRED SCHUBERT, who comes to us from District VI. Fred is now at the Altaville School and proving himself O.K.

That's all for now. See you all at the "Angels Camp Frog Jubilee" May 19, 20, and 21.

Arthur Jasso, Dispatcher

NEVADA COUNTY

Car salesman really had a hey day with the CDF men here this spring. It seems like every one outbid their selves and blossomed out with a new car this spring all within the last month. Foreman Jack Odgers a new 50 Olds, Foreman Fox a 50 Olds, Truck Driver Norman Brott a 49 Kaiser, Assistant Ranger Weselsky a 50 De Soto, Ranger Knowlton a 50 Chev. and last but not least and

with in his financial means Firetruck Driver Jim Matthews, a 33 Chevrolet Coupe, new to him.

The old problem of what to do with most of our 24 hour standby time this summer is facing us again. But this summer we hope to have solved that problem somewhat and this spring we have prepared to meet it. Last week we gave a dance and raised some money. With the money we bought a pool table also asking for donations of old furniture with which we could improvise a recreation room, result, we got an additional pool table for nothing, but we have more than one camp so it won't sit idle. Beside the pool table we also have visions of a ping-pong table, coke machine, candy vendors, lounging chairs, curtains, etc. Any contributions acceptable.

Conservation Week, which turned out to be over a month for us, is over and after taking a tally we find that this County, in cooperation with the Nevada County Conservation Council put on 37 programs to various groups including all the schools in the vicinity and contacted about 1500 people. This is exclusive of radio programs as our local station went out of business right in the middle of Conservation Week.

A Range Improvement Experimental Area of about 70 acres has been established in Nevada County recently by members of the Sacramento Office, District Office and representatives from Nevada County CDF. The objectives for the area are similar to those on other Range Improvement plots in the state and we hope that we can show the local people some of the good and bad practices of the different methods of brush removal and range improvement. We are carrying on this experiment with the help of the Soil Conservation Service and the Farm Advisors Office, taking advantage of all the knowledge they have along these lines. Already the Soil Conservation Service has conducted a survey of the area for us and soon the Farm Advisors Office is going to make a reseeding plan for the area that will fit in with our brush removal plans. With these different agencies taking an active part in the program there is bound to be considerable interest stirred up among the local people.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

INSECT CONTROL PROJECT

The first of May saw the completion of the insect control project in the Fence Meadow Zone of Infestation of Fresno County. The control work was done in one of the finest remaining stands of virgin Sugar pine in the state. The project was a cooperative one between the Byles-Jamison Lumber Company and the C.D.F. While the number of trees treated was rather limited, the trees, mostly over-mature Sugar pine, averaged over 55 inches in diameter. The work was slowed down by unseasonably high temperatures which made the burning of the bark hazardous. A large number of the merchantable logs in these trees was salvaged by the company.

Dean Schlobohm, Forest Technician

FRESNO COUNTY

Quite a bit of activity on the west side this month. First a battle between the bugs and squirrels and the CDF to see who would reap the harvest of

the garden planted at Joaquin Muretta. So far due to the use of poison and insect dust we seem to be winning, time will tell. Fresh vegetables from our own garden should lower the meal cost to where T-bone steaks could be afforded once in awhile. Our new station sign has been set up out in front and even though it has been up only two days it has caused quite a bit of comment, all favorable, from various sources.

Across the road, opposite our new sign of which we are justly proud, The Bectel Construction Company, one of the companies which built Boulder Dam on the Colorado River are setting up their headquarters. They are building the 34" natural gas pipe line, for the P. G. & E. from Texas to the San Francisco Bay area to supply that fast growing area. Just a few days ago the field they were on was barren, soon it will be covered with pipe racks and heavy equipment. Trucks and the railroads are hauling pipe and more equipment all the time.

The C.D.F. is playing host to twenty two geology students and their Professor from U.S.C. at Berkeley. They are studying the Kettlemen Hills area southeast of Coalinga and will be here for over a week.

The Fish and Game boys are here also putting in some quail guzzlers out in the dryer parts of the country. All together along with our preparations for the coming fire season it has been anything but monotonous over here in the west side.

N. F. Nicholson
Associate State Forest Ranger

MARIPOSA COUNTY NEWS

On the afternoon of April 20th cars of various rural fire organizations began to converge on the City of Merced and by the following morning firemen and their equipment had fairly overrun the city. The occasion was the Annual Conference of the California Rural Fire Association which had a three day get together of the various departments, agencies and manufactures of fire equipment. There was in attendance approximately 750 firemen and 150 fire equipment representatives on hand coming from over the entire state.

The conference started on Friday at 9:30 A on the 21st starting off with panel discussions on many important subjects which were led by eminent authorities of wide experience which proved very interesting and enlightening. The program adjourned for the day shortly after 5:00 P.M.

There was a short business meeting starting the Saturday program at which time Don Smith a representative of the California State Firemen's Association gave a very informative talk on possible death benefits to widows of men employed in the fire services. He urged that the various wives be informed of pension possibilities in the event of the husband's death. In the event of such death he invites the widows to contact him for assistance in efforts to secure the high possible renumeration.

There was a parade showing many models of fire fighting equipment. There were many fine demonstrations of fire fighting technique which were of considerable value to many. An outstanding feature of these dmonstrations was that all were made by the various fire services rather than by the fire equipment companies as in the past. District IV personnel of this Division put on a very impressive demonstration of the latest forest fire control practices which was well received by the crowd.

During the evening ample refreshments were provided for all, by the P.E. Van Pelt Company.

Saturday a trip to Yosemite was arranged for the ladies, transportation being furnished by the several automobile agencies in Merced.

Saturday evening there was a banquet followed by a dance.

Sunday A.M. saw the finale of the highly successful event with an election of officers for the coming year with Deputy State Forester C.E. Metcalf, being elected Association Prisident for 1950-51.

The CYA Stub Campwhich for the past several years has divided its activities between Mt. Home State Forest and the Mariposa Ranger District has made the Annual trek to Mt. Home for the summer season. We have enjoyed working with this group very much and are looking forward to their return in the Fall of 1950. Much improvement work was made possible by the assistance of this group.

J. F. Rosar
Assistant Ranger

MR. GORDON PASSED AWAY

We regret to announce that R. R. "Bob" Gordon, special agent with the Board of Fire Underwriters and very well known throughout the Division of Forestry, passed away at his home in Selma on April 29, 1950.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Most winter projects being completed or having been completed, finds top brass and lowly personnel from this neck of the woods, vacationing or returning from vacation with tanned faces, new cars, freshly planted gardens and beautiful photos of state-wide scenery.

Then of course, added to our Roster of new arrivals for the last 9 or 10 months, we find Daniel attempting to walk for Foreman and Mrs. Tyler Burch, a boy, Gary, for Foreman and Mrs. Sam Garza, a girl Clydette, for Foreman and Mrs. Clyde Erler, and a girl, Joan for Foreman and Mrs. Bruce Franks.

Then, not last and definitely not least is a hopeful outlook for Associate Ranger and Mrs. Gervice Nash, and also an addition expected soon for Foreman Jack Skeels, wife and daughter. Both expectants hopeful to use accessories of blue. Which takes care of our new arrivals for now.

To get back to winter projects. We find a newly reconstructed and completed phone line from the Smith Creek Station over the hill and thru to the San Antone Camp. Total of 16 miles of line. Greatly improved reception was attained with Associate Nash as leader man, driving his "mule train." I mean men thru rain, snow and ice, but wonderful results were the reward.

Having taken top priority for winter work we find road building and maintenance crews working full blast throughout the day and receiving their nights rest in which is known in these parts as "Earl Renn's folly" or the "Santa Clara

Hotel." Assistant Ranger Renn and Foreman Skeels built his abode on our Ford Stakeside. It features 4 bunks, a refrigerator, cupboard for dishes, 2 flamo tanks, on the truck bed, all covered by a framework and tent. Under the truck bed, a concealed sliding table makes its appearance by giving a tug on the back end. Cooking equipment was borrowed from our summer field kitchen and is attended to by Foreman Ben "Mother" Miller, chief cook and bottle washer.

Also on project we see by staring blankly out the window, shiny red, freshly painted equipment ready for another summer of polish. Soon to be seen will be a gleaming metallic green coat of paint to cover the sedan of one Ranger George Britton, very nice looking we hear.

To adorn some of this county's summer camps will be greenery received from the Davis Nursery. Cork Oak and Aleppo pine will be planted at our San Antone Station. Tall billowing poplars and many green shrubs for the arid desert grounds of the Oak Flat Camp. These things always give an added incentive for station improvement.

And that just about winds things up from this county for awhile except to express our sympathy to our Foreman Curtis McCumber who just recently left the hospital after having major surgery. We understand Curt will be out of commission for awhile. Hurry back Curt, we all miss you.

Dick Wall
Forest Fire Fighter Foreman

On Friday evening, April 7, all the Santa Clara County personnel, together with Associate Ranger Jean Sindel and Assistant Deputy Carl Albertus from the District Office, gathered at the Alma headquarters station to attend a party in honor of the retirement of Dee W. Adams, Forest Fire Fighter Foreman.

Dee has served with the Division as a Forest Fire Lookout, Fire Truck Driver, and Forest Fire Fighter Foreman during the past ten years.

The Smith Creek Fire Control Station has been Dee's stamping grounds for the past three years and he has made the station one of the most attractive in the State.

Dee has been a fine crew leader and also an expert fire control man. His endurance and stamina have always been a source of amazement to the younger men who have had the misfortune to have to follow him on a fireline.

Dee tells us that he is going to manage an auto court in Douglas City in Trinity County where the fishing and hunting are supposed to be out of this world.

A hand tooled leather wallet was presented to Dee by the boys as a token of rememberance and it was with extreme reluctance that every one bade him farewell, and good luck in his new venture.

We know that you will join with us in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Adams the best of everything always. We know that we are really going to miss him here.

Sam Garza
Forest Fire Fighter Foreman

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

As of April 15th, this county, with the rest of District VI, inaugurated the 1950 fire season and went to 24 hour operation. Lookouts and suppression stations were placed in operation and fire fighters were hired. Foremen Phil Crosby and John Hess have been busy the last two weeks of this month in carrying out a complete fire fighter training program at La Mesa Headquarters for these new employees. This program serves to introduce them to the Division of Forestry and its operation and to acquaint them with fire fighting tools and methods. They are then sent out to the field station where their training will be continued.

Assistant Ranger Frank Anderson was transferred to Valley Center Station from the Camp Elliott County Hospital Annex Station and was replaced by Assistant Ranger Bart Myers from LaMesa Headquarters.

Construction work on our new Mt. Woodson Lookout has been completed and materials are arriving at the Potrero Station site in preparation for construction of a new four-man station here and a continuance of our post-war building program.

La Mesa Headquarters resembled an electronics "lab" for a good part of the month as Radio Technician Naschke and Koch from Sacramento, Woodruff from Riverside County, Gillette from San Bernardino, and our own Bert Holcomb completed the F.M. frequency change as required by the FCC. We hope that it improves our radio operation.

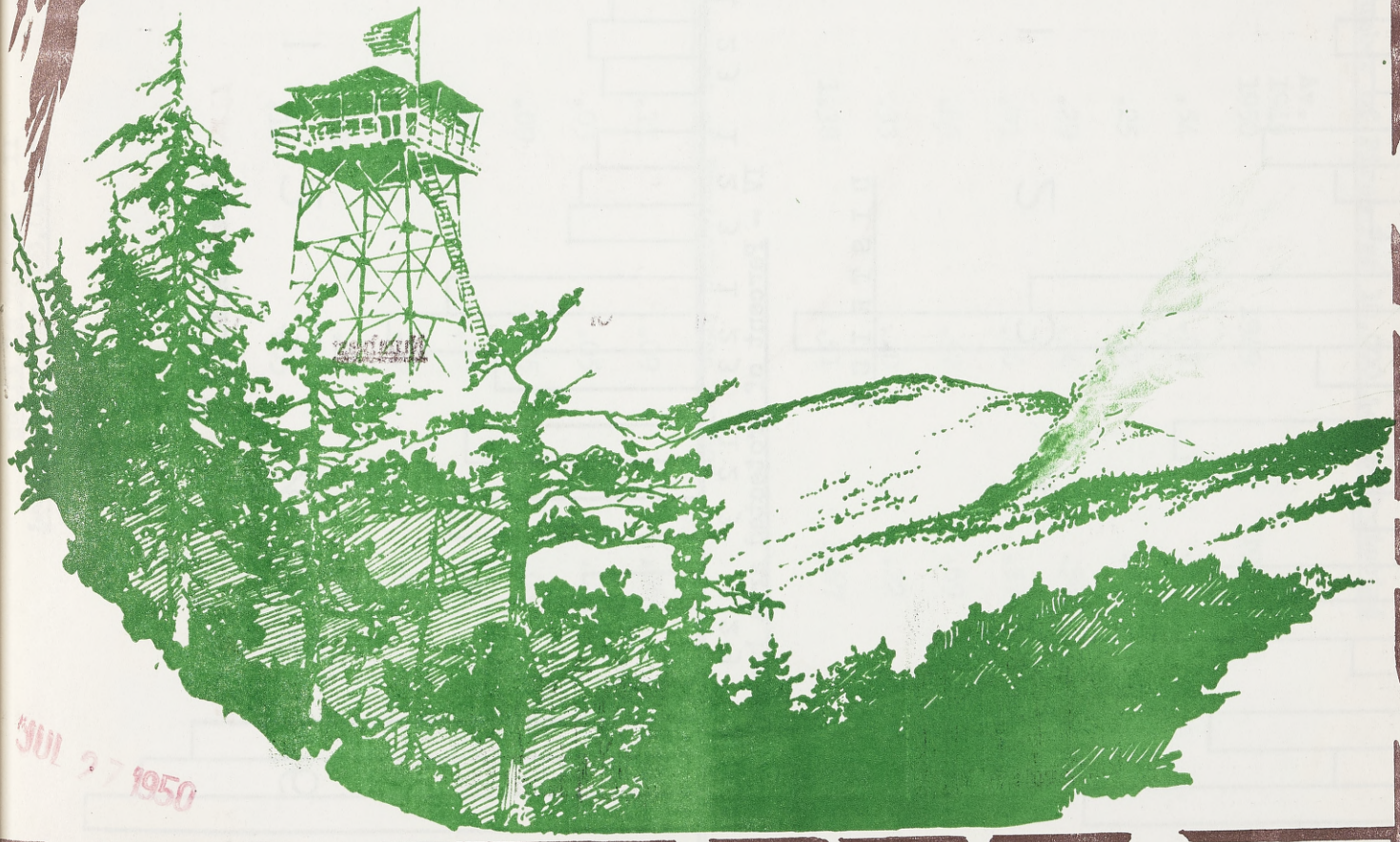
E.S. Miller
State Forest Ranger



# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES



JUL 27 1950

MAY - VOL. 9 - NO. 5

I - Number of Fires

Legend
1. Six year average 1945-50
2. 1949
3. 1950

Number

700
600
500
400
300
200
100

DISTRICT

1 2 3 4 5 6

1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3

II - Number of Fires per 10,000 acres protected

DISTRICT

1 2 3 4 5 6

1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3

III - Acreage Burned

Acres

7500
5000
2500

DISTRICT

1 2 3 4 5 6

IV - Percent of protected area burned

DISTRICT

1 2 3 4 5 6

## I - Number of Fires

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 1,804 | 1,826 | 1,913 |
| District I | 167 | 217 | 182 |
| II | 223 | 259 | 276 |
| III | 186 | 226 | 150 |
| IV | 361 | 289 | 384 |
| V | 198 | 123 | 131 |
| VI | 649 | 712 | 790 |

## II - Number of Fires Per 10,000 Acres Protected

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .54 | .55 | .57 |
| District I | .25 | .32 | .27 |
| II | .29 | .34 | .36 |
| III | .71 | .86 | .57 |
| IV | .65 | .52 | .69 |
| V | .33 | .20 | .22 |
| VI | 1.38 | 1.51 | 1.67 |



## III - Acreage Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 35,628 | 28,900 | 19,486 |
| District I | 2,195 | 3,673 | 1,698 |
| II | 7,093 | 3,377 | 2,250 |
| III | 5,846 | 9,061 | 1,588 |
| IV | 7,604 | 1,448 | 2,253 |
| V | 7,383 | 8,908 | 2,572 |
| VI | 5,508 | 2,433 | 9,125 |

## IV - Percent of Protected Area Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .11 | .09 | .06 |
| District I | .03 | .05 | .03 |
| II | .09 | .05 | .03 |
| III | .22 | .35 | .06 |
| IV | .14 | .03 | .04 |
| V | .12 | .15 | .04 |
| VI | .12 | .05 | .19 |

THIS IS VOL. 9 - NOS. 5 & 6.

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

The Northern District of the Division held a three-day training session for Butte County State Forest Practice inspectors on Diamond Match's operation at Sterling City. Mr. Roseberry, Forester for Diamond Match, was able to spend three days with our inspectors in going over all phases of their operation from falling the trees in the woods to hauling the logs to the mill. Many ideas were exchanged at this meeting regarding good and bad forest practices and the part each phase of logging played in attaining good forest practices. The training session was well received by our inspectors and of great benefit in making our men more cognizant of the loggers problems and in providing our inspectors with additional logging knowledge which should result in better forest practice inspections. Similar group training sessions are being arranged on the Collins Pine operation at Chester and the McCloud Lumber Company at McCloud.

At this time the Central Sierra District is holding a weeks training school for forest practice inspectors within that District. The field laboratory for this group training session is the woods operation of the Michigan-California Lumber Company at Camino.

These on-the-ground training schools for forest practice inspectors conducted by the District Forest Practice Technicians using the facilities of local cooperative timber operators are a splendid start in our Forest Practice training program to be followed up with on-the-job training.

The Redwood Forest Practice Committee met at Scotia May 24, 1950, for a business meeting and for a field trip May 25th.

A bit of history for the Redwood Region was made at this meeting. Three companies within the Redwood Region submitted alternate plans to confine the burning of slash to extremely hazardous accumulations and to avoid the burning of slash in general, but to provide increased fire protection to cut-over lands in lieu of burning slash. This indicates a new trend of thinking in the Redwood Region on slash disposal and one which has our hearty endorsement. The submission of alternate plans to the Forest Practice Rules shows the effectiveness of these Rules. When operators can draft alternate plans for their operations, as they are now doing, that will do a better job of attaining the objectives of the Forest Practice Rules, The Forest Practice Rules are really doing the job of improving forest practices in a very democratic way.

Representatives of industry, the Division of Forestry, and members of the Forest Practice Committee participated in the Forest Practice Committee field trip. This group visited Pacific Lumber Company lands selectively cat logged ten years ago with no burning of slash and other company lands selectively cat logged during the same period in which slash was burned. The group was also shown an area logged by cat last year where spot burning of heavy slash concentrations was done during winter rains.

During the early afternoon the group looked over the various stages of slash burning following logging on the Holmes-Eureka Lumber Company operation at Grizzly Creek.

The balance of the day was spent in seeing the area at Cummings Creek selectively logged by the Hammond Lumber Company which the Company proposes as the first Redwood Tree Farm. This area had been cat logged and spot burned. Salvage operations of down material were being conducted for better utilization and to reduce the amount of debris left in the woods following logging.

The field trip afforded those who participated with a comparative picture of the results of cat logging and high lead logging. The effects on the residual stand from spot burning or not burning the slash following logging as compared with broadcast burning appeared to be very striking.

The Redwood Region Logging Conference held its annual meeting and equipment show in Eureka May 26-27, 1950. The theme of the meeting was "Logs For Today - Trees For Tomorrow." Sherman A. Bishop, Manager of the California Redwood Association announced the tree farm program for the Redwood Region and stated that two applications for certification as tree farms have already been received by the Association. The inauguration of the tree farm program in the Redwood Region to keep the area continuously productive so that lumbering will become permanent and communities will become stable is an important undertaking to the welfare of the State as well as the local people.

Representatives from private industry and the Division of Forestry conducted a round-table discussion of tree farm possibilities in the redwood and fir forests, selective cutting, protection of residual trees, slash disposal management of second growth, growth and development of residual trees, and effects on log costs. Other panel discussions were given on what enters into the cost of logs. These cost of log forums were on the following phases of logging: falling and bucking, yarding, loading, transportation, fire protection and slash disposal, and safety.

The conference was well attended and resulted in a lively exchange of logging methods and equipment for the improvement of forest and logging practices in the redwood and Douglas fir forests of northwestern California.

Fire season has been officially declared by the State Forester and all employees are on the twenty-four hour standby basis.

We are experiencing the usual number of fires for this time of year however, at the end of May we stand 54 fires less than at this time one year ago. Only one serious fire occurred, burning approximately 1,000 acres of grass and grain in Monterey.

The ground fuel is much heavier in the range and grain sections of the State than has been present in the previous two-year period, thereby making the risk more extensive than normal. Usually, however, a good crop of grass indicates a higher degree of caution by livestock men to protect their areas.

Weather was abnormally warm the last few days of May but, otherwise, normal weather has been the rule.

The two special range improvement crews stationed at Davis were activated on May 1 and are receiving an extensive training course before going out on control burns. They are ready to respond on schedule arranged by the fire control Dispatcher as the control burn program progresses.

F.C.C. rules require that we change frequencies on our radio. This entails the changing of crystals and modification of 1000 units. The work is being done by four radio technicians of Forestry and one from the Division of Communications. F.C.C. required our complete vacancy, however, to date only two districts (VI and IV) have been accomplished. At the present rate of accomplishment only three districts will be completed by July 1.

The Division of Communications have requested a 90-day extension from F.C.C. and if granted, we may be able to enjoy uninterrupted communications, however, if the request is disallowed, we may be compelled to discontinue use of radio in Districts III, V, and I until the change is complete.

The 1950-51 Operating Expense allotments will be completed and sent to the field June 9, 1950. Districts are well under way in preparation of 1951-52 Property and Equipment Budget. Approval was recently obtained and initial action taken in getting under way the 1950-51 Postwar Construction Program.

Bids and proposals for construction of 35 crew trucks and 15 fire trucks will be received and analyzed by this office on the 15th of June and we anticipate awarding construction contracts not later than June 19th. The estimated time factor in constructing this group of vehicles is 90 days.

A concerted drive has been made during May to obtain compliance with sawmill waste disposal law. It has been noted that the number of waste burners has increased largely over last year and that the general attitude of both woods and mill operators shows a serious concern for prevention of fire.

Work on the Lake County insect control job has been completed and final reports are being made. Spraying of infested tops on felled trees and standing trees and spraying of green slash was done on an experimental basis by CDF personnel in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Total number of tops sprayed with the D.D.T. solution amounted to 167 and represented about 440 M fbm merchantable timber. Observations will be made on the effectiveness of this type of control.

Division personnel assisted with the civil service examinations for forest fire truck driver and forestry equipment operator by giving applicants a field performance test. These examinations were held at nine different locations in the State on the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 22nd of May and were given to approximately 400 competitors for the positions.

Spring clean-up hazard reduction, and roadside right-of-way clearance work which was initiated last month has continued in full swing this month. Field forces increased their efforts to contact local land owners and rural groups in an intensive fire prevention program. The Division's many fire prevention roadside signs have been erected in the hazardous areas of the State for the summer months.

Several districts held training schools this month for their permanent personnel stressing as their theme Fire Management and Organization. Field practice, simulating conditions experienced on large fires, was included.

The Division's Postwar Building Program progress is very satisfactory. Minor construction programs in all districts is very nearly complete for 1949-1950 Fiscal Year. Major construction projects in the various districts are in the following state of completion:

| | |
|---|---|
| District I | Healdsburg Fire Control Station 85% complete. Boonville Fire Control Station 30% complete. Parlin Ford C.D.C. main camp approximately 85% complete - residence materials on order. District office buildings plans are being prepared by Division of Architecture. |

District II: Redding equipment building, Shasta County practically complete.

Rangers residence, garage, Susanville 90% complete. Magalia C.D.C. main camp 85% complete. Residences 30% complete and under contract

District III: El Dorado Fire Control Station 85% complete.
Marysville warehouse and equipment building 85% complete.
Sutter Hill rangers residence 90% complete.
Sonora Rangers residence 85% complete.
Sonora Associate Ranger's residence 95% complete.
Refinishing fire damaged office 95% complete.
No definite site for C.D.C. has yet been established.

District IV: Fresno County headquarters (Sanger) pump house, ranger's residence, garage, and dispatcher's residence, garage 75% complete.
Engineering section have all plans completed except for gas and oil house for this location.
Miramonte C.D.C. is now occupied by C.D.C. wards - Camp 95% complete.
Mariposa warehouse 85% complete.
Los Banos foreman's residence, garage, 25% complete.

District V: King City warehouse and equipment buildings 85% complete.
Felton equipment building 30% complete.
Slack Canyon C.D.C. 80% complete.
Supervisor's residence at Slack Canyon construction awarded to contractor.
Construction to start immediately.
Santa Clara County Headquarters construction delayed due to land acquisition.

District VI: District Office buildings still in planning stage with the Division of Architecture.
Devore fire control station 85% complete.
Elsinore fire control station materials on hand - ready for construction.
Portraro fire control station materials on hand - ready for construction.
Oak Glen C.D.C. 60% complete

Funds are now available for Division's 1950-51 Fiscal Year postwar construction program. Engineering section working full speed on plans, material lists and requisition. All districts are prepared to start construction as soon as construction materials are purchased.

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Faced with a summer fire season having all the earmarks of a potentially bad one, the Division of Forestry placed its fire prevention educational program

in high gear this month. On June 1 and 2 State Forester Nelson called together the California Fire Prevention Committee, a voluntary citizen's committee formed in 1947 to battle the rising incidence of man-caused forest fires. More than one hundred members attended the two sectional meetings, one held in San Francisco and one in Los Angeles. The apparent interest on the part of committee members to help with the educational problem of acquainting Californians with fire hazards was again most encouraging. Tentative plans for the season's work were discussed and many fine commitments for extensive efforts in the informational field were voiced. Participation this year in this voluntary program will probably be greater than in any previous year. Many of our major industries have now started this work thru their own informational outlets. Many will distribute visual material supplied by the Division and the U.S. Forest Service. Excellent support is being received from State agencies, namely, Department of Public Works, Highway Patrol, Recreation Commission, Department of Agriculture, and others. All Divisions of the Department of Natural Resources are lending the program their assistance. California's press, radio, motion picture houses, and television stations are already throwing their weight behind the program and there is every reason to believe that these efforts will become more concentrated as the season progresses.

Division of Forestry personnel have been extremely active during the month in both fire prevention, educational, and fire hazard reduction work. Roadside hazards, dump grounds, industrial areas, and many other hazards have been attacked during the month and a great amount of reduction work accomplished.

During June seasonal fire suppression labor was increased to allowable strength and by the end of June all crew stations and forest fire lookouts were activated and fully manned. The month's activity saw a great deal of necessary training work accomplished with these seasonal men. Training schools were held in some areas on a district wide basis and in others in a ranger unit basis. Training will continue during July.

Fire weather was moderate during the first fifteen days of June but burning conditions became severe during the latter part of the month. High temperatures were experienced in most parts of the State, in many cases well over 100 degrees. High temperatures were accompanied by low humidities and in some cases moderate winds. A rush of fires accompanied the severe burning conditions but initial attack crews with early detection were able to suppress most fires before they reached large size. Four fires in Southern California during June became rather large and a total of 3000 acres of watershed brush land was blackened.

By the end of the month applications for range improvement control burns on 100,000 acres of brush range land were in the hands of Division personnel. Some 274 areas were inspected and permits issued indicating an active season for forestry personnel. It was encouraging to note that the early filing of application by land owners this year permitted an evaluation of the State-wide situation before the heavy fire work load arrived in mid June. Land owners have been cooperative in shifting range improvement control burn dates during the year to reduce the conflict of this program with the heavy wild fire incident problem that generally occurs during August and September.

The two special range improvement standby crews, established by legislation in 1949, were activated this month. These two crews spent the first of the month at a training session at Davis. Intensified field training followed at a field school in El Dorado County of District III. One crew has now been sent to District I and one to District III for standby work on early

season range improvement burns.

Division personnel attended a field day program this month held at the Spring Dell Experimental Range in San Benito County. The Rescue Range Improvement Study Project in El Dorado County was prepared this month for burning in October. Adaptable grass species for this area have been determined thru observation of results of seeding carried on during the last two years.

The Federal Communications Commission gave the Division this month a ninety day extension to accomplish the radio modification work necessary when changing to a new operating frequency. With Division Radio Technicians working long hours, the change over to the new frequency ordered some time ago, has been completed in Districts II, IV, and VI. Work is now progressing in District I and as soon as completed technicians will move to Districts III and V.

The Division received twenty new pieces of equipment, both fire truck and crew trucks, from truck body build up contractors during the month. There remains ten new crew trucks that will probably be delivered to the Division during the first part of July. Two GMC truck tractor transports are to be delivered by July 5 and two White transport truck tractors have been slightly delayed and probably will not be received until the latter part of July. A contract for fabrication for thirty-five Ford crew trucks and fifteen International fire trucks is now in the process of being awarded to P.E. Van Pelt Inc. of Oakdale.

Due to concerted efforts of Division field men to achieve 100% registration of timber operators, 775 timber operators have registered with the State Forester's Office during the first half of the current calendar year. This is 158 more operators than were registered last year on June 30.

The Central Sierra District of the Division held a five-day training session for their forest practice inspectors during the early part of the month on the Michigan-California Lumber Company operation near Camino. Good and bad forest practices were discussed in the woods and many ideas were exchanged regarding the part logging plays in achieving better forest practices.

During the month of June two other woods training sessions for forest practice inspectors were held in Northern California. One session was held on the Collins Pine operation at Chester and the other on the McCloud Lumber Company operation at McCloud. These meetings give forest practice inspectors and members of industry an excellent opportunity to discuss problems and puts the Division in a better position to accomplish better and more intelligent, as well as practical inspection work.

During the latter part of June the Western Pine Association's Forest Practice Committee conducted a field tour of various operations in the northern section of California's Pine Region. Division personnel from both District II headquarters office and Sacramento Office participated in this field trip.

During the month the equipment building at Shasta County headquarters was completed. The rangers residence and a garage at Susanville headquarters of the Division were also completed. In District III finishing touches were being made on the Sutter Hill ranger residence and the Sonora Ranger residence. A warehouse at Mariposa in District IV and a warehouse and equipment building at King City in Monterey County were completed.

HONORS FOR FIRE CAMPAIGNERS

Before 600 advertising men and civic leaders at a luncheon in connection with the annual convention of the Advertising Association of the West, held in Los Angeles June 26, tribute was paid to Don Belding and Rullsell Z. Eller in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention Campaign. Mr. Belding, partner in the nation-wide advertising agency of Foote, Cone & Belding, and Mr. Eller, California Fruit Growers Exchange advertising director who also serves as the Advertising Council's coordinator for the campaign, helped to pioneer it in 1942 and have been active in it ever since.

A message from Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan commended them. Regional Forester Perry A. Thompson, presenting the plaque to Don Belding on behalf of the USFS, the State and private fire prevention agencies and the Advertising Council, recalled how Mr. Belding proposed the Wartime fire prevention campaign that now continues as the CFFP campaign. In early 1942, as head of the Los Angeles task force of the Wartime Advertising Council, Mr. Belding saw the need for arousing the public to reduce man-caused fires which would destroy vital resources and interfere with the war effort. He met with Supervisor William V. Mendenhall of the Angeles National Forest and Assistant Regional Forester Wallace I. Hutchinson of the R.O. They arranged a meeting of representatives of USFS, State Division of Forestry, Southern California Conservation Association, and Mr. Belding's task force, on May 12, 1942, at Los Angeles. Plans made there resulted in approval by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Wartime Advertising Council of a nationwide forest fire prevention campaign. It was launched a few months later.

State Forester DeWitt Nelson, who attended the pioneer meeting as then Supervisor of the San Bernardino National Forest, presented the plaque to Russell Z. Eller.

Administrative Digest
July 5, 1950

SAF MEMBERS OPPOSE FEDERAL REGULATION

The Society of American Foresters in a referendum held May 26 went on record as opposing regulation of private forest management by the Federal Government. Of the 3,652 ballots cast, 2,545 members (69%) voted to oppose, and 1,107 (31%) voted in favor of Federal regulation. About 40 percent of those eligible to vote did not return ballots.

Administrative Digest
July 5, 1950

CAMPING INCREASE

Recreationists made 3,800,000 visits to forests in R-5 in 1949, according to Assistant Regional Forester M. M. Barnum. That included 1,100,000 visits to forest campgrounds, a gain of 8 percent over the previous year.

The 531,000 visitors at picnic areas were a 16 percent increase. Organization camps operating under special-use permit from the Forestry Service drew 145,000 youngsters and oldsters, a step-up of 13 percent.

Other uses showed these totals: winter sports areas, 533,000; resorts and hotels, 336,000; summer homes, 261,000; wilderness areas, 59,000; hunting and fishing areas, etc., 848,000. The totals do not include an estimated 13 million motorists who traveled scenic forest routes.

A 31 percent drop in winter sports use last year reflected the severe winter of early 1949 which blocked roads to ski areas on some weekends, Mr. Barnum said. This also contributed to a reduced business at forest resorts and hotels.

Administrative Digest
May 17, 1950

TREE PLANTING MACHINE FOR R-5.

The Region recently purchased a Lowther tree planting machine. Ranger Chuck Abell on the Shasta was the first to try it out. He reports good success on planting the Sheepwell burn at a saving of 28% below hand planting costs. The machine plants an acre in 1 hour and 20 minutes, or 515 trees per hour.

Administrative Digest
May 17, 1950

NEW RANGER STATION

New ranger station for Palomar district of the Cleveland opened May 29 at Escondido (732 N. Broadway). Proud occupants are Ranger Edward Schultz, Assistant Ranger Glen Willingham and Clerk Grace Lundgren. The City of Escondido donated the site for the ranger station, the Cleveland's central equipment shop, a central work shop, radio shop, and living quarters for a 20-man fire crew. Development plan calls for seven more buildings when funds are available. Old headquarters at Oak Grove will be used as a fire guard station.---(Cleveland's news release).

Administrative Digest
May 17, 1950

REDWOOD REGION CONSERVATION COUNCIL

A Redwood Region Conservation Council was formed May 24 at a meeting in Ukiah of representatives of the forest industries of the redwood region. E.T.F. Wohlenberg of Masonite Corporation, Ukiah, was elected chairman. Ben S. Allen of California Redwood Association was elected Secretary of the newly formed council. The Council will form a number of redwood "Circles," a circle being a group of people primarily interested in the development and stability of the community as related to private industry. There are no rules or dues nor requirements for joining other than a serious interest in the conservation of our forest economy and a belief in the system of free enterprise. The redwood circles are to effect a close relation between the industry and the community. Functions of the circle may include the study of industry's responsibility to the community and community's duty to industry and a maintenance and mutual respect between the two. Means of protecting the community's stability, such as fire prevention and tree farming, will be studied, fostered, and publicized by the circle. Circles will undoubtedly dessiminate throughout the community from schools to service clubs information on good

conservation and forest practice thru literature, speakers, seminars and study outlets.

This type of citizen effort has long been needed in California and the Division of Forestry sincerely congratulates the redwood industry for initiating this "tree roots" educational program. Administrative officers of the Division will cooperate wholeheartedly with these redwood circles.

LARGE FIRE ORGANIZATION TRAINING FILM STARTED

In conjunction with a four-day training session, involving fifty District III personnel, a variety of equipment, and fifty-acre fire, and many incidentals, scenes were stages and photographed by Geo. Fox Productions Inc. of Hollywood that subsequently will be made into a Division training film on the important subject of large fire organization. With two 35 mm motion picture cameras running full blast for three days, Fox Productions shot some 10,000 feet of film. Additional footage of film will be required to turn out the training film and will be taken by Fox Productions late in the year.

Geo. Fox Productions has been the successful bidder for the preparation of 35 mm trailers that are used by the Division in its fire prevention educational work thru the motion picture houses of California. The first of four trailers to be produced by Fox this year is presently being shown in many motion picture houses throughout the State.

LETTER FROM CITY MANAGER HAMANN OF SAN JOSE

"Dear Mr. Nelson:

"On behalf of the City of San Jose I wish to thank you for the excellent work your men did in bringing under control the fire in Alum Rock Park and the surrounding area, on Tuesday, June 6th. The work of your department saved much valuable property and resulted in controlling a fire, which under the adverse wind conditions that existed, might have resulted in a major conflagration.

"Sincerely,

s/A.P. Hamann
City Manager "

BUSINESS FIRMS HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The California Fire Prevention Committee, comprising one hundred seventy-five (175) industrial, civic, and governmental agencies this month announced its awards for distinguished public service in the field of forest fire prevention to Shell Oil Company and to Charles P. Skouras, President, National Theatres.

These are the first annual awards made by the Committee, a citizens group organized in 1947 to stop the rising incidence of man-caused forest fires in California thru intensive public education. A bronze plaque bearing the citation, identifying emblems of State and Federal Forest Services, and featuring Smokey "The Fire Prevent'n Bear" saying "Thanks For Helping Prevent Forest Fires" was presented to Shell Oil Company officials at the first of two sectional meetings of the Committee held June 1 in San Francisco.

Presentation of a similar award to Mr. Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres President, was made June 2 when Committee members from Southern California met in the State Chamber of Commerce Building at Los Angeles.

Committee Chairman, State Forester DeWitt Nelson, called the meeting to review tentative plans for intensifying this year's fire prevention educational campaign. The Committee's efforts are spearheaded jointly by the California Division of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service.

The award to Shell Oil Company was based on outstanding activity in forest fire prevention in Western states during the last twenty-five years. The company joined in an emergency campaign during California's most disastrous fire season of 1924 when forest and range fires blackened nearly one million acres of land and caused five million dollars in damage. Subsequently, Shell extended its cooperation to other Western states. Thru a quarter century the company has featured forest fire prevention to millions of Westerners by special advertisements, highway billboards, signs at its service stations, and in other ways. Shell will continue active in the current 1950 program.

The award to Mr. Charles P. Skouras, President of National Theatres, and well known for his public service work, is based on the outstanding assistance he has given the Committee's state-wide program thru Fox West Coast and other motion picture theatres. He joined the campaign two years ago by offering to circulate short motion picture trailers that carry a strong fire prevention message thru California theatre houses. Each year over five hundred (500) theatres have used these prevention shorts almost continuously from July thru October. Estimates place the number of people viewing these forest fire prevention reminders at twenty-five million (25,000,000) a year. Mr. Skouras plans to continue this educational work during the 1950 summer fire season.

THE SUMMER OF 1924

Smoke and dust, fever and sweat,
The darndest season I've put in yet;
All you can hear, or think, or do,
Is fighting fire the season through.
All other work has gone to pot,
Our working plans are completely shot.
(Suffering cats, will it never rain?)

My heart has a knock, my nerves are frayed,
My stomach's gone, my feet are splayed,
My eyes are dimmed from the backfire smoke,
My lungs are sore and my back is broke.
(Out in the West, where men are men,
It hasn't rained since the Lord know when).

A column of smoke and a windy day,
It mushrooms up and drifts away.
But under that pillar of pearly gray
Is the same old fight in the same old way.
Thirst and sweat, worry and grime-
She's jumped the line time after time,
With a rip and a crackle, a rumble and roar-
We call for help and try once more.
(When winter comes we won't be sore).

The open spaces are free and deep,
The mountain slopes are long and steep;
The sparkling canyon and rocky peak,
I've climbed them all till my legs are weak.
Scenery is what some folks may desire,
But it's rotten stuff in a forest fire.
(Oh, Sunny Cal is a joyful land;
It is, like heck! Ain't nature grand!)

A holiday for me would be
On a sunny isle in a balmy sea,
Where I could sleep and eat and shave,
Where I could sleep and eat and wave;
In its tropical rain with its glad downpour
I'd dream of the Summer of Twenty Four.

R. W. (Bummer) Ayres, Supervisor
Stanislaus National Forest, 1924

Submitted from the library of
Oliver J. Denney, Assistant Ranger,
Fresno County.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### FROM DISTRICT II

On Tuesday morning, May 9, 1950, personnel of the Division at Stirling City were called on for the first time this season to help in locating a missing person. A search party from the Butte County Sheriff's office led by Deputy Sheriff Leslie Thomas and Constable Robert Easley was joined by Associate Rangers Harry McKeen and Jack Scholey, Forest Fire Fighter Foremen Richard H. Bawcom, Robert R. Brownlee and William H. Brownlee and Fire Fighters Joe Angle and Ronald Peabody and Glen Witham from the Magalia C.D.C. Camp. It was determined that the missing man, Mr. Percy B. Brubaker, 51, of Paradise, a carpenter-plumber, had planned to fish Fall Creek, a tributary of the West Branch of the Feather River. Teams were organized and with Handie-talkies made a systematic search of the area Mr. Brubaker should be in. At about noon Associate Ranger McKeen located Mr. Brubaker's body in a pool of water in the West Branch of the Feather a short distance above the mouth of Fall Creek. He had fallen about forty feet and had apparently died of a fractured skull. The body was turned over to Mr. Paul Gaukel and Mr. Mandel Meecham of the Paradise Mortuary.

This is the first death in this area from a fishing or hunting accident in quite some time. However, we have either conducted or been included in about six searches of this type every season for the past four years. Usually the victim is located, badly frightened and confused, but seldom injured seriously. It has been our experience that practically every person who gets lost started on his excursion alone, and usually in territory that is wild and rough as well as completely unfamiliar to the victim. This habit of going out alone is not confined to strangers, but is practiced by a lot of locals, we find on a little investigation. In our public relations contacts in this area we make it a practice to point out the dangers of lone hunting or fishing, and it might be a good idea to include it in public relations contacts with the major news services more than we have in the past. If it could help just one person it would be well worth

any effort on our part.

William A. Ensbury
Assistant State Forest Ranger
Stirling City

MADERA COUNTY

Forrest Eckler, Forest Fire Lookout, on Basalt Peak in Western Merced County, seems to be having trouble with hitch-hikers these days. Forrest was coming down the lookout road in his shiny, new Mercury Station Wagon one evening when things began to happen. Not wanting to take any chances of going off the shoulder with the new wagon, he was somewhat "hugging" the bank, which at that particular location is about car-top high. Suddenly, Forrest observed something leaving the bank in the direction of his rolled-down window. Luckily, the "object" hit the second window, which was rolled up, and fell onto the road. Eckler admits he was a little shakey, and quite a bit peeved, when he discovered the would-be hitch-hiker was full-grown rattle snake with nine rattlers. As it turned out, Forrest ended up with the rattlers, a scratched window, and a somewhat nervous condition for a couple of hours afterwards.

Arthur Mober
State Forest Ranger

On May 10th, 11th, and 12th, Madera County was host to the entire District on a fire camp training program. The fire camp was held at the Rancheria Fire Control Station in the Coarsegold Assistant Ranger District. The first day's program consisted of class instruction for all foremen and drivers. The fire fighters were instructed in the proper use of fire control tools and the operation and maintenance of the chain saw. The second and third days were devoted to actual fire control assimilated by a major campaign fire. Madera County personnel were honored to be host to all of the District IV personnel who participated in this training session.

The following is a composition of Bill Lyon, Forest Fire Fighter, assigned to Madera Headquarters, and which we believe is worthy of publication in the News Letter:

I AM FIRE

I destroy thousands of dollars of property each year.
I destroy forests grazing lands, homes.
I eat my way through California each year -- eating and
marring anything that gets in my way.
I have clear field, nothing to bother me,
No one seems to mind --- not till I destroy his home or property.
For me to survive, people must be careless -- they must not care.
Each year they are warned of me, each year they forget.
People call me cruel and disasterous and that I am.
Who makes it so? Who gives me my start in life?
Burning horrible fire, one who throws a lighted match out of
the car window - or a small, harmless cigarette.
Small - harmless - but it's my start; just a spark to set me alive,
that's all I need.
Then, I burn, destroy; I kill.
I kill and go free, to kill again.
Thank you, jury, you the people. Thank you for the freedom
you've given me.

Robert J. Moran, Assoc. State Forest Ranger

CHEMICAL FUMES CAUSE MAN'S DEATH

Fumes from a chemical with which he extinguished a fire in his automobile was the cause of death of Mathew Gibson, 32, of Ontario.

The doctor stated on February 26 Gibson's car caught fire in the front seat and he had a small pyrene fire extinguisher with which he put out the fire. He then got in the car and drove it, even though the front seat was saturated with the fluid. Shortly after this, he became ill and as time went by his condition became worse. On March 5 he was taken to San Antonio Community Hospital, but regardless of medication and treatment, he failed to respond and kept going downhill until the evening of March 8, when he expired. The doctor further stated that he was sure death was due to inhalation of the fumes from the fire extinguisher.

An autopsy was ordered and performed by Dr. Chauncey Baird, whose findings proved that death was due to Acute Tetra Carbon Poisoning, due to inhaling fumes from fire extinguisher.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

This month San Diego County welcomed Bill Jamieson as our new Associate Ranger.

Bill has been with the Division a number of years and joins us from Napa County.

Congratulations to John Hastings, who received this month his Associate Ranger appointment in Napa County. We regret losing John, however, in favor of the appointment we wish him success and good luck in his new position and location.

MIRAMONTE CDC CAMP

The Miramonte CDC Camp, after wintering in what may be classed as not too ideal conditions, moved into its permanent home on the 15th of May. We had anticipated an earlier moving date but delay in the installation of telephone services changed our plans.

Starting on May 10th with a visit from the Director of Natural Resources, General Warren T. Hannum and State Forester DeWitt Nelson and Deputy State Forester C. E. Metcalf we have had a continual flow of visitors. It seems as though everyone wants to take a look at what these camps will look like when finished. If the visiting schedule keeps up we think we can make money by hiring a bus and charging so much per head.

The camp is now operating at full capacity of 60 men, and the building construction program should be completed approximately June 1st, outside of minor adjustments and alterations, leaving only the landscaping to be done.

Sunday, May 21 we made our first fire run. This was to the Rocky Hill fire in Tulare County. And from the way the grass is growing this will be far from our last.

John N. Clark, Forestry Work Project Supervisor

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

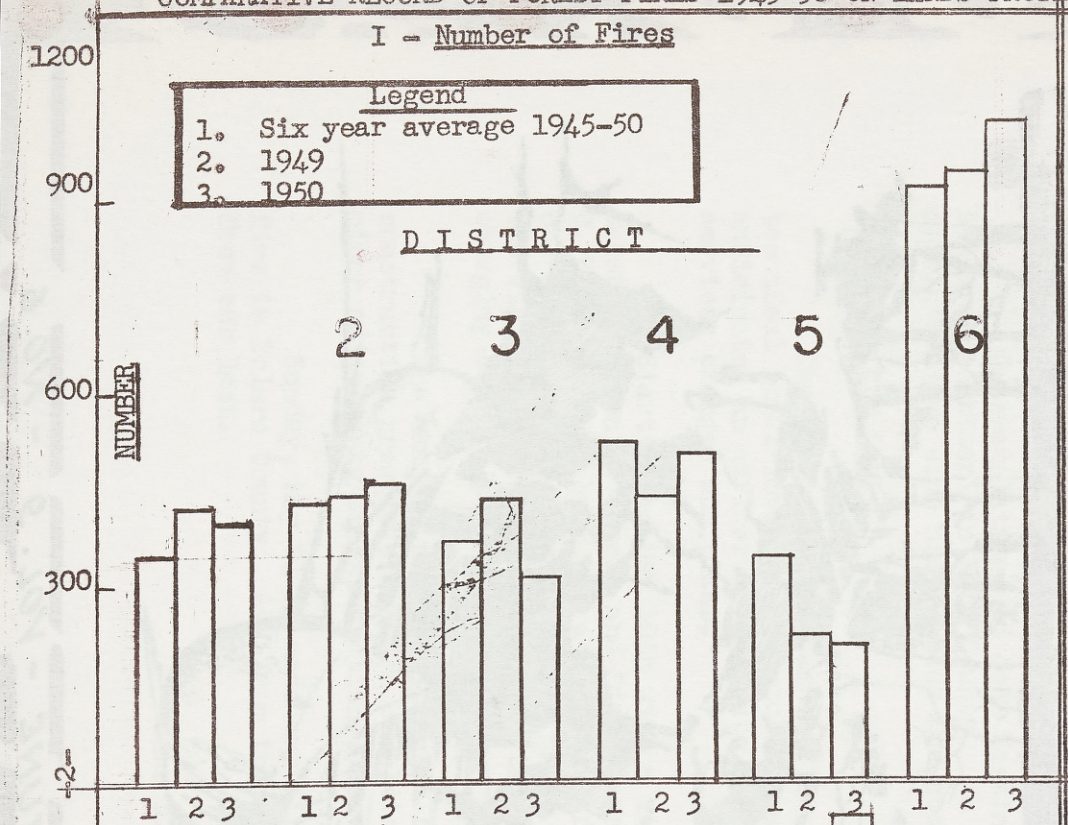


JUNE - VOL. 9 - NO. 6

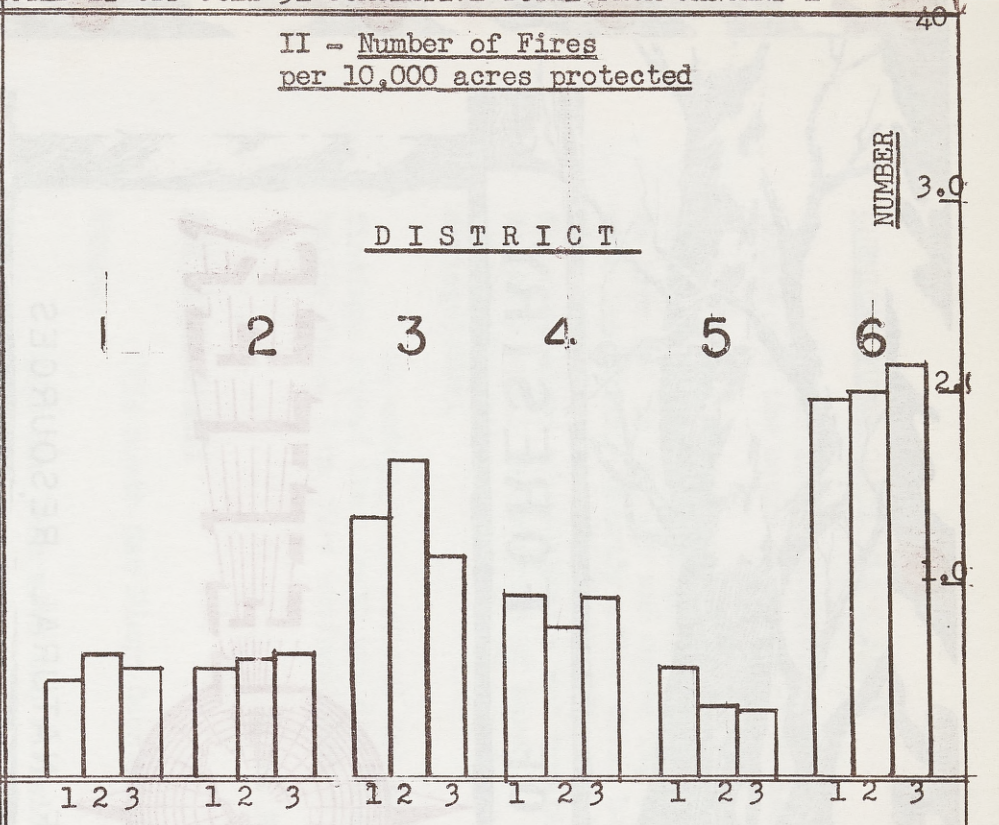
COMPARATIVE RECORD OF FOREST FIRES 1945-50 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY OSF SOME 91 COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTIVE [illegible]

I - Number of Fires

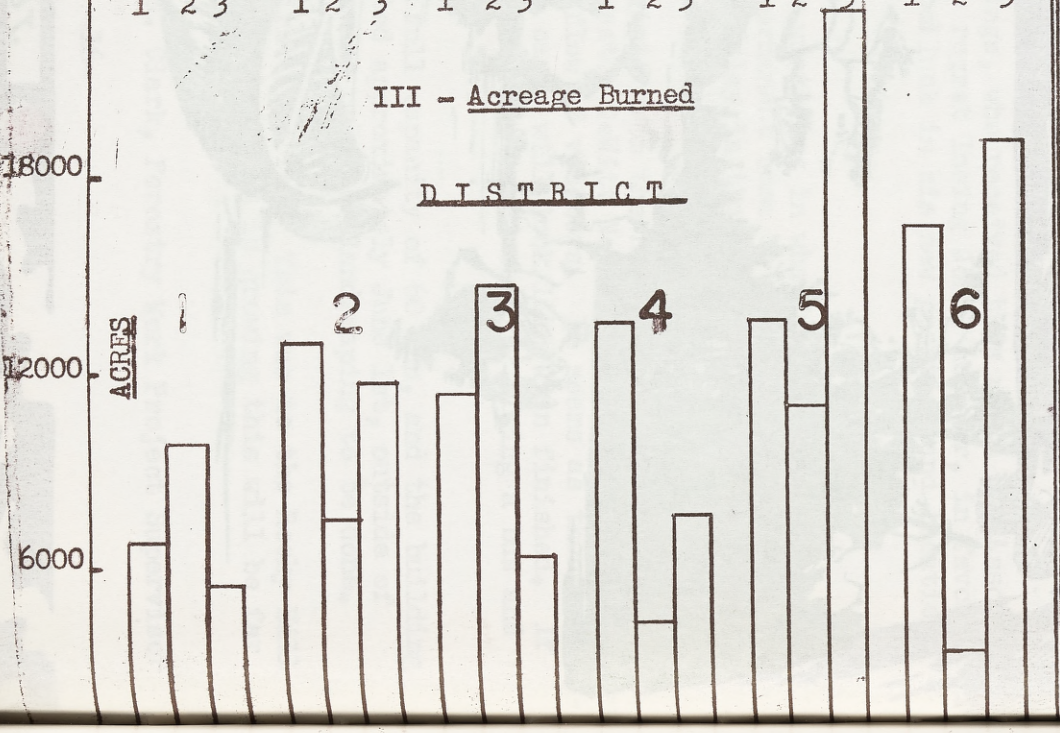
Legend
1. Six year average 1945-50
2. 1949
3. 1950



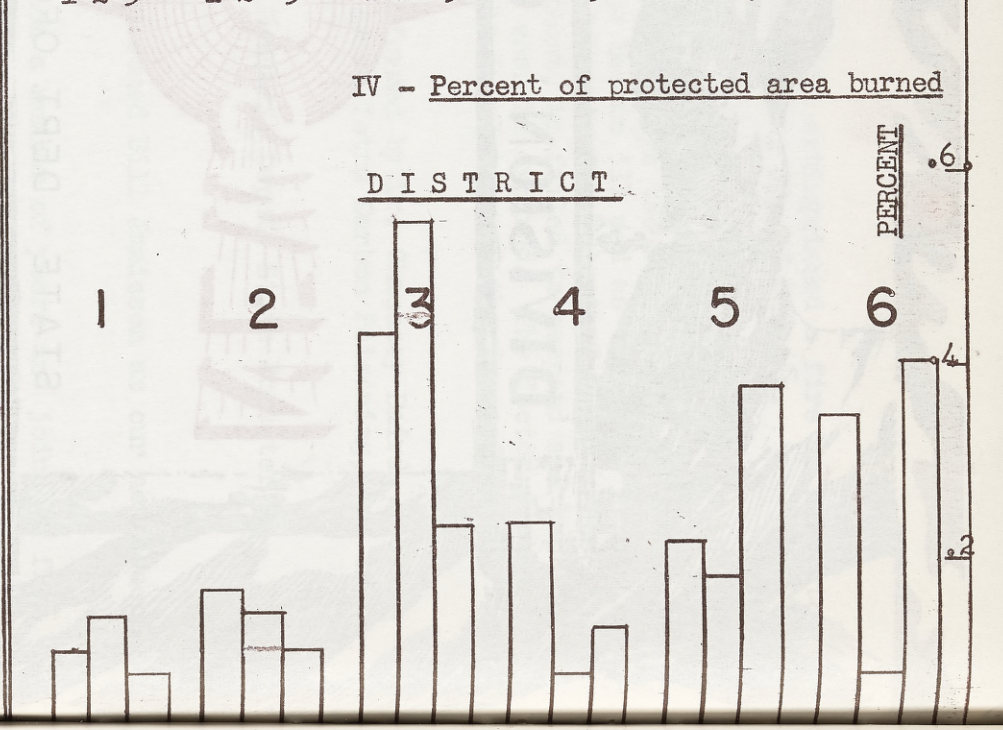

II - Number of Fires per 10,000 acres protected




III - Acreage Burned




IV - Percent of protected area burned



## I - Number of Fires

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 2,929 | 2,884 | 2,931 |
| District I | 355 | 421 | 403 |
| II | 424 | 434 | 468 |
| III | 360 | 433 | 306 |
| IV | 524 | 436 | 513 |
| V | 334 | 218 | 215 |
| VI | 932 | 942 | 1,026 |

## II - Number of Fires Per 10,000 Acres Protected

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .88 | .86 | .88 |
| District I | .52 | .62 | .59 |
| II | .55 | .56 | .61 |
| III | 1.37 | 1.65 | 1.17 |
| IV | .95 | .79 | .93 |
| V | .55 | .36 | .35 |
| VI | 1.97 | 1.99 | 2.17 |



## III - Acreage Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 74,279 | 49,699 | 72,089 |
| District I | 6,789 | 9,714 | 5,231 |
| II | 13,071 | 7,417 | 11,475 |
| III | 11,370 | 14,475 | 6,095 |
| IV | 13,345 | 4,122 | 7,300 |
| V | 13,416 | 10.711 | 22,983 |
| VI | 16,288 | 3,260 | 19,005 |

## IV - Percent of Protected Area Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .22 | .15 | .22 |
| District I | .10 | .14 | .08 |
| II | .17 | .10 | .15 |
| III | .43 | .55 | .23 |
| IV | .24 | .07 | .13 |
| V | .22 | .18 | .38 |
| VI | .34 | .07 | .40 |

This is Vol. 9 No. 7

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

Severe burning conditions occasioned by high temperatures and low humidities during the latter part of June carried over into July in most parts of the State. Because of these weather conditions and the extremely low content of moisture in vegetative fuels, fire incidence continued high. Division of Forestry fire suppression crews worked round the clock to keep abreast of fire business. Strong initial attack confined the majority of fires to small acreage. During the first fifteen days of the month the Division attacked and controlled five hundred nineteen fires, only ten of which burned in excess of five hundred acres. Two of these fires reached major size before being placed under control.

A fire starting on June 29 on the eastern slope of San Gorgonio Mountain in San Bernardino County raced over 12,500 acres before being snuffed out by rain on July 22nd. This was a joint U.S. Forest Service and Division of Forestry fire and both agencies were severely hampered in control efforts due to the steep, inaccessible terrain of the area. It was impossible to use heavy equipment and tankers on this fire, the majority of work being accomplished by hand labor.

Faced with difficult control operations, the Division in cooperation with local utility companies, endeavored to produce rain artificially thru chemical seeding of rain clouds. On the second day of these cloud seeding operations rain fell in enough quantity to drown out the fire. Whether or not cloud seeding efforts caused rain to fall is a matter of conjecture for the U.S. Weather Bureau concluded that rain would have fallen without any attempts to artificially produce moisture. In either case, however, it was indeed fortunate that the rain did fall since many thousands of additional acres would have undoubtedly been burned over.

San Luis Obispo County also suffered heavy losses during this period. Both the U.S. Forest Service and this Division experienced a heavy run of fires several of which, because of burning conditions, escaped initial attack effort and reached major size. All available sources of supplemental manpower were taxed in this region with both the U.S. Forest Service and this Division requiring aid. On lands protected by the Division some 25,000 acres were burned over by four fires that finally burned together and were controlled as one fire. Four men lost their lives in this area when trapped between two fires.

During the latter part of the month fires in Shasta, Siskiyou, and Sonoma Counties destroyed an additional 9000 acres of forest and watershed land. Preliminary statistics indicate that on land protected by the Division more than 60,000 acres were burned over during July. With the exception of 1947 when 63,500 acres were scorched, this is the largest July loss in the last six years. The potentially dangerous fire season anticipated earlier became a reality this month and it is well to emphasize again that unless weather conditions change the August and September period are going to be unusually critical.

Recognizing this fact the Division, thru its state-wide and local programs, continued to emphasize fire prevention efforts. In many areas full use of law enforcement procedures were emphasized to gain full compliance with fire prevention laws. Local industries, organizations, and groups were apprised of the situation and asked to use their influence to gain more careful use of fire. Work in the reduction of physical hazards was of necessity somewhat

relaxed during the month for most personnel were extremely busy on going wild fires. Where the fire load was light, however, this work continued unchecked.

The team of technicians from the Division of Communications and this Division continued its job of modifying Division radio equipment called for by the Federal Communications Commission months ago. By August 4 the technicians will have completed modification work in all administrative districts except One and Five. It is hoped that all radio equipment will be converted in these districts by the October 1 deadline established by the Federal Communications Commission.

Two four-wheel driven Coleman Ford trucks were in the fabrication stage at the Yankee Motor Body Corporation this month with an anticipated delivery date of August 31. Three pickup pumpers being constructed by the Van Pelt Company will be completed by August 4. This company also worked during the month on the construction of one crew truck and one fire truck which, after preliminary approval by Division personnel, will be used as models for the construction of thirty-five crew trucks and fifteen fire trucks. Seven D-7 Caterpillar tractors were delivered to the Division by the Caterpillar Tractor Company. Two G.M.C. diesel transports with Foster tilt bed trailers have also been received. The Division anticipates the delivery of two White diesel transports within the next ten days.

After overcoming site problems, material shortages, labor difficulties, and adverse winter weather conditions, seven of the eight approved C.D.C. camps have now been completed and are occupied. Engineers are once again surveying a site for the eighth camp in Placer County.

A number of range improvement control burns were conducted this month in Districts I, III, and IV. With but few exceptions all burns have so far been confined successfully to their predetermined control lines. Present indications are that ranchers conducting these burns are seriously concerned this year with the escape fire problem. To date they have directed greater attention to adequate control lines and sufficient manpowerand equipment to preclude the possibility of fires escaping. Greatest activity in this field will come in August and September when a large number of burns are scheduled.

Under the State Nursery program, the Division of Forestry distributed more than 97,000 trees during the fiscal year 1949-50. The bulk of these trees were sold to the general public for purposes of soil erosion control, farm windbreaks, farm woodlots, stock shelters, and for public planting along streets and roadsides. This is a 45% increase over distribution during the previous year.

The total number of timber operators now having registered under the Forest Practice Act totals 844. This year's registration already passes that of last year when a total of 813 timber operators were recorded.

Forest practice inspection work continues in all districts. An example of the work load entailed in this program is indicated by the figure for our North Coast District in this district to date. Division employees have accomplished 509 sawmill inspections and 261 logging inspections.

The Board of Forestry at its July 13 meeting in Visalia asked by resolution the State Lands Commission to proceed with the proposed exchange of scattered pieces of State School Lands for various parcels of National Forest land lying in the vicinity of Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare

County. This problem has been under consideration for the last two years.

LET'S LAUGH

Bits from subpurchase orders (NR40) and other documents received in the Sacramento Office.

"Labor - Remove head - check for cracks and install owner's head."

"These shoes necessary to replace worn shoes and shoes that lining was coming off from."

"I carried Mr. H. from Fillmore to Visalia." - - Forestry's Strong Man.

WE WONDER

"Generator arm went out and battery went dead, radio went dead, car went dead." What became of the driver?

Name of a recent fire "DAM" - Was he only expressing his feelings?

One station buys milk, etc. from a DIARY. Are there any secrets in the curd?

Another buys food at a Gorcery.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEVADA COUNTY

Nevada County had its fourth of July celebration too, along with many other communities in the State and as per usual we had an entry in the parade, but just as our entry (fire truck plus decorations) got about two thirds of the way through the parade it received a call to go on a fire (another advantage of radio in a fire truck). His get away was assisted by several hundred spectators and for awhile the people thought it was part of the show, but when the truck didn't come back right away I guess they realized it was the real thing. What could be better publicity than that.

For some of the Nevada City CDF men the last 3 days were spent in search of a missing boy in the wilds of Deer Creek. The boy, the son of Bill Price retired Forest Service Official, was found several miles from where he was supposed to be lost suffering only from exposure and exhaustion, but OK otherwise. Searching for missing persons is a far cry from firefighting but stranger jobs than that have developed lately.

Spring? No it can't be that; but something is definitely causing all these fires out at Lake Vera adjacent to the Girl Scout Camp. So far we have had 3 this week. It looks like a case for the Ranger to investigate.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

In Nevada County the fire situation has been picking up recently as small fires of all caliber have started to play a large part in the life of our personnel. For example, we had on the third of July a small burn of 320 acres go up in smoke on the lower end of the county. On the fourth of July a small fire on the U.S.F.S. required the services of the CDF to help control the situation.

Although we have been consistently interrupted, we have not been idle as to Fire Prevention activities. As undoubtedly some of you know, at Lake Vera each summer there is a continuous congregation of Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls from Oakland, Sacramento, and neighboring communities; to which at successive intervals we are giving Fire Prevention talks and showing movies.

Getting back to fire control, we have developed a new technique as to the ideal fire and its suppression conditions. The title of our little gem as discussed in this article will be "The Tahoe Navy." Its amazing development occurred on the eleventh of July. A crew was sent to Scott's Flat Reservoir to check a fire reported to be on the bank of the reservoir. As it was on the cooperative boundary with the U.S.F.S. they dispatched a crew also. Neither crew found the fire; but later another CDF crew led by Bob Green, FFTD and supervised by Ranger Don Knowlton and Associate Ranger Jim Hayes returned to the scene. After discovering that the fire was on the other side of the reservoir, the crew commandeered a boat, crossed to the fire and presently returned with a full report on such ideal conditions. Of course you know what branch of the service our personnel will be in if the Korean situation continues.

As the fire season is now in progress, we think it appropriate that a representative voice of a member of our community be included in this publication:

JUST WONDERIN'

I wonder about forest trees
And at this time of year,
My thoughts of them are slightly tinged
With something I call fear.

Summer, a long dry summer, has relinquished her reign and Autumn has taken over the forests which are dry and sere and the fire hazard is great. Soon, however, the hunters will be thronging the forest paths, building their camp fires by limpid mountain streams and, of course, after a day of tracking the antlered deer they will be relaxing, eating the evening meal and smoking the festive cigarette.

Lumbermen, foresters, and experienced hunters know and observe the rules which govern their conduct during the hunting season, but there are the rank amateurs and the careless ones, who seemingly take no thought for the morrow or anything else. They literally have no time to bank fires, or to look well to the ways of their lighted matches and their cigarettes.

Costly forest fires follow in their wake and seldom do they stop to consider the fact that their negligence has caused any of the annual disasters.

The true hunter acts to protect our forest areas, because he enjoys coming to his favorite resorts year after year and so desires the salvation of the forests and the wildlife they shelter. The lumberman shudders at the number of homes which wanton waste make impossible of construction. The forester knows the danger of forest fires not only to the trees and wildlife but to the lives of men who must go forth to battle the fire demon which someones heedless hand has unleashed.

It is asserted that nine out of every ten fires are man-made -- man made? What of the girls and women who are perhaps more careless with their cigarettes and matches than their more experienced brothers?

With the approach of hunting season, signs will be posted, warnings will be issued, many precautions taken. Still to those of us who love our forests, to those of us who are grieved by the yearly loss, and to those of us whose homes are in forested areas, comes the haunting fear of fire.

Let us all take extra precautions against the raging demon of destruction this season and let us warn others to take similar precautions. It would be cause for deep regret to come happily into the inviting forests, enjoy the rustling shade, the spicy odors and the sports of which some of us are so fond and then leave behind us a smoking ruin of that which we had found serenely beautiful. Let us make sure that no heedless act of ours will kill the green forests and destroy the helpless animals sheltered therein.

The rules of the forest are simple,
It were wanton indeed to forget;
Quench your fires, crush the lingering
sparks
From the stub of your cigarette.

by Adeline Merriam Conner

Larry Monian, Dispatcher

FROM DISTRICT III

District III extends their sincere sympathy to Jerry and Doris Reinecker (nee Bennetts) in the loss of their year old daughter.

AMADOR COUNTY

Since our last article in the News Letter we have managed to bring our routine more near to normal. Our construction of the garage and store room at Dew Drop Station and the Ranger's residence and garage at Sutter Hill has been

completed thanks to the willingness and cooperation of all personnel. Both the garage and Ranger's residence are now in use. Landscaping of both projects is under way and for the most part the heavy work is completed. The rest will be easy as we have reached the stage where our work shows results.

We are almost finished with a very ambitious roadside and general hazard reduction program. We have been able to burn many more miles of roadside this year than last year due to the help of the large CYA crews at Pine Grove CYA Camp. Much of the burning was done at nite which calls for a lot of cooperation from everyone. We will probably never be able to measure the effectiveness of our efforts but at least we have arrived at the scene of several roadside fires to find them burning up and down the road inside a disced or hoed line. This happened before all strips between the road and the lines were finally burned out. From this we know that it pays off more than one might suspect. So far we have had a comparable light fire season but we don't know what is coming up.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV

Again this year the Division of Forestry participated in the Fresno State College Conservation-Use Workshop. This group--comprising school teachers and administrators from all sections of California, Illinois, and Iowa--is given a very extensive field course in all phases of conservation by the members of public and private agencies dealing with each resource. The Division of Forestry presented a picture of the organization of the Division, the state policies on range improvement, forest practice, and fire prevention, and fire detection and control equipment was demonstrated. To cover the above the Division cooperated with the USFS, USNPS and UC in conducting four days of field trips.

Dean F. Schlobohm
Forest Technician

KINGS COUNTY

August 9 a spectacular fire occurred on the property of Art Nell, Oil Company, located in Kettleman Hills. An oil well and swabbing equipment truck was involved. Cause: oil fell on hot exhaust of truck during swabbing operations, several barrels of oil ignited causing fire to spread all over the place. Gang working on swabbing operations fled with something like ATOMIC speed to safety on top of a nearby hill. We have no quarrel with good judgment such as this, however. After the real danger was over it was comical to watch the foreman of the gang waving closed fisted arms and calling names several degrees warmer than said fire. (ALL THE KINGS HORSES AND ALL THE KINGS MEN COULD NOT BRING THAT GANG DOWN AGAIN, NOT UNTIL THE FIRE WAS PRACTICALLY OUT THAT IS.) Seriously, this could have been a large fire considering a $150,000 well was involved, damage to well totalled $2500, While damage to oil swabbing truck and equipment totalled $25,000. Five Kings' County trucks and one oil company truck took action on fire. This is the second oil fire this season, the other being a compressor plant also located in Kettleman Hills, property of Kettleman North Dome. Fortunately damage in both cases was small compared to property involved.

Hay fires are just about over for this season. We are happy to report a decrease in number of fires in this category. Grain harvest is over. Acreage in this county totalled approximately 150,000 acres, of that amount 55 acres burned. Fire occurred on westside of Kings County on June 6, election day, and the worst wind experienced the entire year - one could hardly distinguish dust from smoke.

Responsibility in Kings County, continues to increase with a new oil well discovered near Hanford with a possibility of opening a sizable field. Also, a new cotton compress located at the edge of Hanford on the Southern Pacific Railroad will be in operation for the cotton season this year.

The 1950-51 budget passed - money from last year was retained for construction of Hall's Corner and Corcoran Stations, also $1500 was allowed for turnout suits for active volunteers. One new truck will be purchased.

QUESTION: Would a block in the left-hand lower corner of Form FPE-1 be of particular benefit for the purpose of recording agricultural crop fires, hay, cotton etc., which do not consist of acreage? The revised form just about covers everything and is much easier to make, having a place for vehicles and improvements.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY

The month of July, aside from the usual fireworks heard at this time of year, started off with a bang. Speaking of the Las Pilitas fire in San Luis Obispo County now. District IV sent overhead to the fire on the 4th of July. In this group was Assistant Ranger Collumber from Madera County, and Assistant Rangers Keast and Ballard from Fresno County. Also Foremen Davis and Sommerfelt from Fresno County.

On the 6th all the crews in the Coalinga district were dispatched to the fire which by this time was of major size and growing larger all the time due to the very erratic wind conditions of that area. Tulare County sent over two crews under the leadership of Foreman Main to cover up for us in our absence. While here they had two fires, both quickly controlled with very little if any loss.

On Sunday July 9th all Coalinga personnel returned to their stations. Since that time the oft heard remark "I wish something would happen" hasn't been heard. The regular routine has been resumed and everyone concerned seems content to have it that way.

Under the direction of Foreman King McCall we have carried out a very successful training program on line construction and location and fire behavior, using a sand pile to simulate mountains, ridges and valleys. It works very satisfactory as a substitute for the real thing, the interest of the crew is held and much is learned if the type of questions asked is any indication.

Richard G. Ballard
Assistant Ranger

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

Betty Mazzola is the new Personnel Clerk at District VI Headquarters; Louise Fitzgerald having left our employ to return to "You should pardon the expression" - Florida. Minerva Roberts has taken Betty's former position in Finance.

District VI Headquarters' staff was somewhat short-handed during the month of July and early August; both Neil Rice and Jack Burke having spent two weeks in training camps - Neil with the Army and Jack with the Marines.

NEWS FROM SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Ranger Ed Miller, now recovering from a recent illness, has sent this message for publication in the News Letter:

"I wish to take this opportunity to thank my friends in the Division of Forestry who sent me messages of cheer during my recent illness.

"Your thoughtfulness and consideration is greatly appreciated and I'm sure your cheery messages and cards helped speed me on the road to recovery. Again thank you."

Sincerely,
ED MILLER
State Forest Ranger
San Diego County "

During the illness of Ranger Miller, Ranger James Fenlon is pinch-hitting in the capacity of Ranger. It is sincerely hoped that Ranger Miller will be up and around and back on the job before long.

Assistant Ranger "Lefty" Green from Riverside was transferred to San Diego on July 1, 1950. Having worked before in San Diego County, Lefty was welcomed back by all his friends down here.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The Yucaipa District has had three major brush fires so far this month. The first fire was caused by a lightning strike in the North Fork of Whitewater Canyon. This fire started on U.S. Forest Service lands June 30, 1950, and burned onto State lands July 1, 1950, after burning 12,000 acres in the roughest, most inaccessible area in San Bernardino County. It was brought under control July 5, 1950.

The second fire started July 4 in a grain field on the Jackson Ranch. 800 acres of brush were burned on the Yucaipa Ridge. This area is a vital water-shed for the Yucaipa Valley. The cause of this fire was a faulty spark arrestor on the tractor.that was used to pull a combine harvester.

Also, on the 4th of July, a 500 acre brush fire was started in Redlands City, burning through the Sunset Drive District. This fire was handled by the

units of the Redlands City Fire Department and Riverside County units. All San Bernardino County units were engaged in suppressing the Jackson Ranch Fire and Whitewater Fire.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

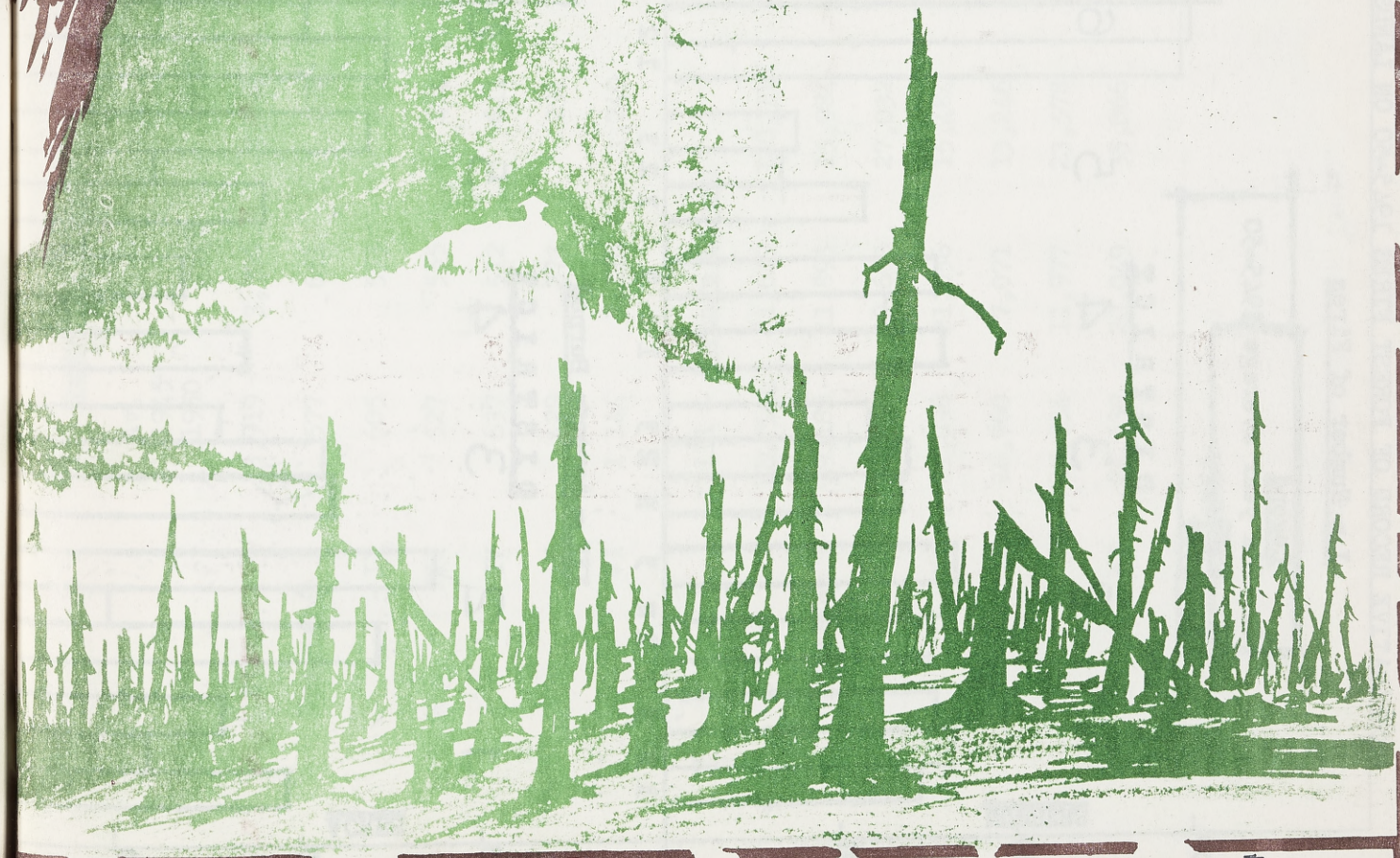
The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |

# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

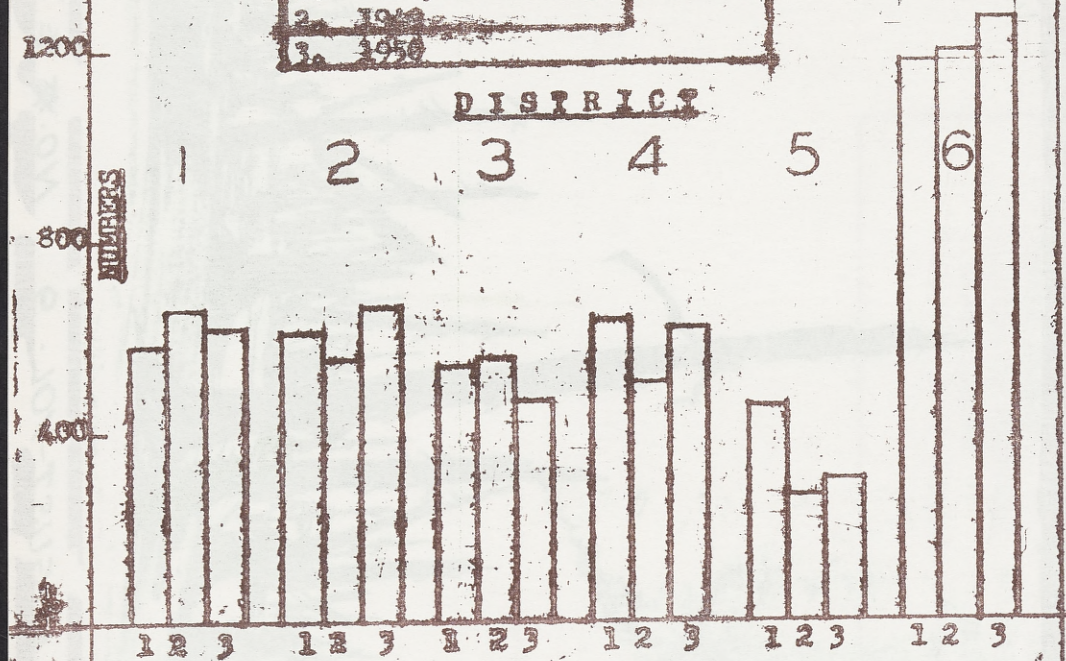


AUGUST-VOL. 9 - NO. 7

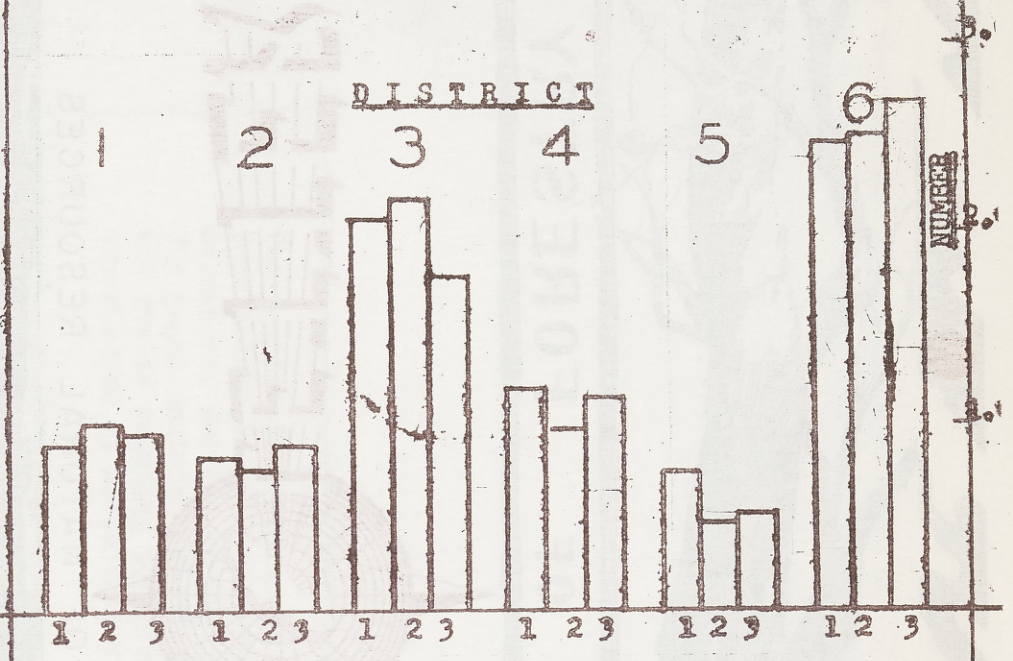
COMPARATIVE RECORD OF FOREST FIRES 1945-50 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CDF AUG. 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1

I = Number of Fires

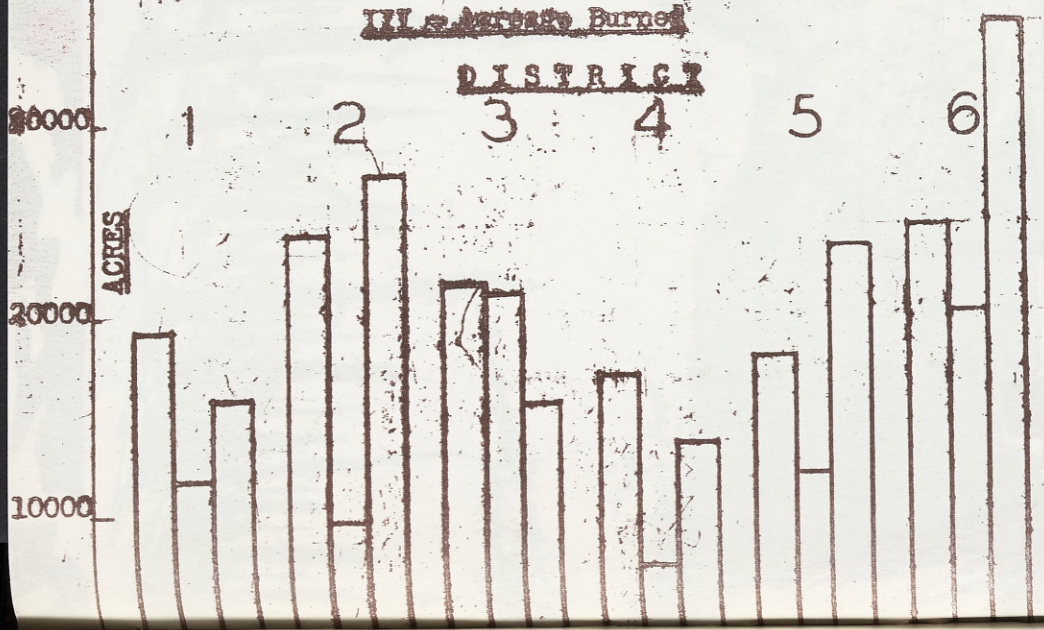
Legend
1. Six year average 1945-50
2. 1949
3. 1950



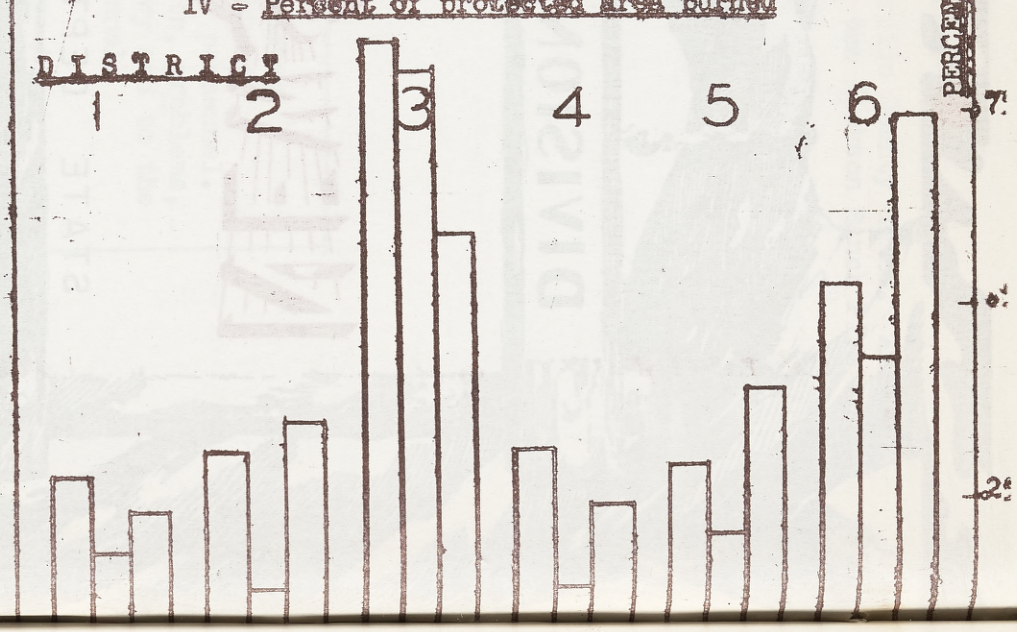

II = Number of Fires per 10,000 acres protected




III = Acreage Burned




IV = Percent of protected area burned




I = Number of Fires

II = Number of Fires Per 10,000 Acres Protected

## I - Number of Fires

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 3,919 | 3,700 | 3,894 |
| District I | 577 | 651 | 628 |
| II | 605 | 553 | 661 |
| III | 527 | 555 | 454 |
| IV | 637 | 512 | 611 |
| V | 429 | 273 | 291 |
| VI | 1,144 | 1,156 | 1,249 |

## II - Number of Fires Per 10,000 Acres Protected

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 1.17 | 1.11 | 1.16 |
| District I | .85 | .96 | .93 |
| II | .78 | .72 | .86 |
| III | 2.01 | 2.12 | 1.73 |
| IV | 1.15 | .93 | 1.10 |
| V | .71 | .45 | .48 |
| VI | 2.42 | 2.45 | 2.64 |



## III - Acreage Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 124,544 | 81,649 | 130,390 |
| District I | 19,188 | 11,893 | 15,984 |
| II | 24,036 | 9,603 | 27,032 |
| III | 21,896 | 21,056 | 15,484 |
| IV | 16,960 | 7,071 | 13,246 |
| V | 17,934 | 11,977 | 23,578 |
| VI | 24,530 | 20,049 | 35,066 |

## IV - Percent of protected Area Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .37 | .24 | .39 |
| District I | .28 | .18 | .24 |
| II | .31 | .12 | .35 |
| III | .84 | .80 | .59 |
| IV | .31 | .13 | .24 |
| V | .29 | .20 | .39 |
| VI | .52 | .42 | .74 |

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

August was marked by two severe fire-weather periods. Along with approximately 1000 small fires there were 26 major fires that blackened 85,180 acres of timber, watershed, and range lands. Twenty-three of the twenty-six large fires were definitely of incendiary origin with from one to eight sets on each fire. The most destructive was the Conejos fire in San Diego County which burned over 53,000 acres of valuable watershed including 8,200 of its beautiful Cuyamaca State Park.

Fire prevention has been stepped up by both Forestry and industry. Some of the major lumber companies are running large scale Fire Prevention ads in local newspapers. Nearly all companies having fires on their lands have turned out their total manpower and equipment to obtain quick control.

The preliminary draft of the management plan for Jackson State Forest is about eighty per cent completed and should be ready by late Fall. State Forest personnel have been working on fire control, boundary line survey, checking timber trespass, patroling hunting and high use areas and scaling timber on both P.G. & E. and Standish and Hickey rights-of-way.

Materials for the branch nursery at the Parlin Ford C.D.C. Camp have been ordered and the land is being prepared for leveling.

Of some 138 individual building projects all but 27 have been estimated and the materials ordered. At the present time the field crews are busy preparing the sites and some foundations have been laid. Plans for standardized forestry buildings have been completed. Surveys have been completed for the Forestry Work Camp in Placer County though the leases are not executed.

The radio modification program in all districts but one have been completed for mobile units, land stations and repeaters. Handie talkie frequency channels will be modified at a later time.

Orders are now being prepared for the acquisition of forty crew trucks, eleven of which will be four-wheel drive. Also being processed are requisitions for seven tractors.

TO THE FIRE FIGHTERS OF THE PACIFIC COAST

July 26, 1950

"The present Korean Crisis has caused all of us to realize anew the importance of civilian defense. I know that you, the people who man our fire departments, are fully aware of the need for preparedness, and I am sure you will agree that we must not be caught short in any emergency that might confront the civilian population.

"I believe that we in California had a real civilian defense organization in World War II and that, had it been necessary, we could have been of great assistance to the federal government in the protection of our people. But even though the system we had set up would have worked then, it would not work now. In any civilian defense program these days, we have to think about defense against the atomic bomb, and we know that buckets of sand are not going to be enough.

"All through World War II we had an excellent Fire Services Advisory Committee, which operated in conjunction with the State Disaster Council. This committee not only worked satisfactorily in its own field, but it co-operated extremely well with our Law Enforcement Advisory Committee in many problems of joint interest.

"In addition to these two Committees, we now have an Emergency Medical Advisory Committee, a Radological Safety Advisory Committee, a State Communications Advisory Board and a Utilities Advisory Committee. Since the start of the Korean fighting, all of these groups have met to re-examine the progress we have made in civilian defense to date and to make recommendations for further development of our program.

"I am happy to report that the Fire Services Advisory Committee is still operating with maximum effectiveness and has made great progress in adapting its plans to the new requirements of the present day.

"We are prepared to go forward immediately with any plan that the federal government might propose to us--a small program or a very extensive one. And in anticipation of receiving a coordinated, nation-wide plan, we are going ahead on our own initiative to do much of the groundwork that would be required under any such program.

"I am most grateful for the fine cooperation we have received from fire officials throughout the State. It is cooperation such as this that has made possible the progress we have been able to achieve thus far.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

s/EARL WARREN
Governor"

EW:ajc

Taken from Fire Journal

## WET WATER FOR FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION

By
Wallace L. Fons, Engineer

In recent years wetting agents have been recommended by manufacturers and others for increasing the efficiency of water for fire suppression. Many local fire protection agencies have made tests comparing wetting agent solutions with plain water for flame suppression and mop-up under field conditions. In general, their results and conclusions indicated the need for comprehensive tests to determine the types of wetting agents best suited for suppression and the best technique for application of chemically treated water, called wet water.

Such comprehensive research was begun in 1948 by the Engineering Department at the University of California at Los Angeles. Technical supervision of the research was administered by the Division of Forest Fire Research, California Forest and Range Experiment Station. In 1949 the Station took over all phases of the investigative work.

At the outset it was realized that a great deal of fundamental research would be necessary before specifications on all phases of suppression could be developed. For instance, those physical properties of water and chemicals accounting for the suppression action were not known. The research program was therefore divided into three parts: (1) Determining the physical properties of plain water and wet water; (2) investigating the mechanisms of fire suppression; (3) determining the suppression effectiveness of wet water over plain water.

When the surface tension of water is reduced, spreading, penetrating, and foaming are increased. Tests of these physical properties were made on water and 14 commercial wetting agents. The tests show that:

1. Surface spreading of wet water on wood is 2 to 8 times greater than water, depending on species of wood.

2. Penetration into wood of wet water is about 8 times greater than water.

3. Penetration of wet water into charcoal is about 2/3 as much as it is for wood.

4. Penetration and surface spreading of water on charcoal is practically nil.

5. All wet water readily forms foam.

Corrosion tests with iron and galvanized iron showed that wetting agent solutions in general, unless they contain an inhibitor, have higher corrosion rates than distilled water. With few exceptions the rate of corrosion was greater for the galvanized iron. The corrosion of metals by wetting agent solutions may be wholly corrected by the addition of small amounts of chemicals, known as corrosion inhibitors, such as potassium dichromate and sodium nitrite. Tests showed that as little as 100 parts per million of potassium dichromate was effective in reducing the corrosion of iron and galvanized iron by wetting agent solutions.

FLAME SUPPRESSION

For flame suppression, a total of 93 model fires were burned on which the effectiveness of 14 commercial wetting agents were tested. Besides these laboratory tests, 66 field-fire tests were made, in which three commercial wetting agents were tested. Each fire was allowed to burn up to its maximum flame intensity before suppression was started. The intensity of each fire was measured with a radiometer. From the radiometer record of each fire, the intensity during suppression was calculated.

The experimental work established the superiority of wet water over plain water in reduction of fire intensity. The superiority is at its maximum when the liquid is first sprayed on the fire. Results indicate that this superiority at the very beginning of spray application on a section of flaming front is from three to four times greater than at the end of application, when only isolated flames remain.

However, in recommending wet water for flame suppression emphasis is given to the superiority based on reduction of flame intensity. The

practical importance of this superiority, especially at the beginning of suppression, is that it shows the decided advantage a hose operator has in advancing on a fire front with wet water. This advantage should permit an operator to knock down the flame intensity more quickly to a point where he can move in and hold the spread of a fire. It is believed, therefore, that the use of wet water in flame suppression should result in controlling a greater number of fires as well as in controlling the fires at an earlier period, thus reducing the size of the mop-up job. Even where an abundant supply of water is available, use of wet water in some instances may make the difference between success and failure in controlling a forest fire.

MOP-UP

To test the effectiveness of wet water in mopping up fires in deep pine litter, a total of 108 test fires were burned. The technique used in mopping up these fires consisted of first spraying the burned area as rapidly as possible, suppressing all glowing, smoking, and burning material; yet not wasting water or wet water by wetting the area unnecessarily. In this first application care was taken to hold the nozzle above the surface of the burning litter at a distance which gave minimum air entrainment and effective spray distribution with maximum coverage. The first application was followed by an intermittent application on those spots where smoke appeared. A quick-opening-and-closing shut-off nozzle permitted closing the nozzle quickly when moving from one smoldering spot to another and opening it only long enough to extinguish the immediate small hot area.

The results of 82 of these fires show that the superiority based on quantity of plain water used compared to quantity of wet water used is about 1.29. Thus, by the addition of wetting agents at appropriate concentration, a saving of 23 percent in the quantity of water can be realized on a given mop-up job.

CONCLUSIONS

Specific conclusions drawn from work performed to date are: (1) Savings up to 23 percent in the volume of water required and 13 percent in time of mop-up can be obtained with wet water if applied with reasonable efficiency; (2) rekindling is reduced as much as 30 percent on fires mopped up with wet water as compared with plain water; (3) foaming appears to be a desirable property of wet water in mop-up because it prevents channeling of the water; (4) wet water is markedly superior to plain water in its ability to knock down flames quickly, thus permitting access to a fire edge not otherwise accessible; (5) dead fuels along the burning edge of a fire or along a backfire line remain wet up to 50 percent longer when sprayed with wet water than when sprayed with plain water; (6) fuels once treated with wet water and allowed to dry may be sprayed later with plain water with results comparable to an original spraying with wet water; (7) most wetting agents increase the corrosive action of water, but this can be wholly corrected by the addition of chemicals known as corrosion inhibitors.

In general, the results to date have shown that wetting agents have a definite place in forest fire suppression.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

### NEWS FROM PLACER COUNTY

We noticed in the last issue of the news letter that most of the other counties were delinquent like ourselves in not having submitted local news and so we hope to make partial restitution by this small offering.

Probably the most outstanding single incident that took place among our personnel concerned Assistant Ranger Frank Jenkins who is stationed at Colfax.

By working hard and saving his money, Frank was able to purchase a television set. The Colfax station being located as it is, is excellent for television reception, and upon having it installed and the days work done, Assistant Ranger Jenkins settled himself in his favorite chair to enjoy the fruits of his two-step bonus payment.

Suddenly a horrible scream rent the air and the Colfax Volunteer Fire Department, together with all local disaster committees, promptly reported to their assigned stations, thinking that the worst had happened. The center of the disturbance seemed to emanate from our Colfax Station, and a hurried investigation found Jenkins sitting pale and ashen.

The investigator, in his report, stated that he could find nothing out of order and the report went on to state that the television set was on and that the picture on the screen at the time was "Then It Happened." It would be well at this point to explain that not too long ago we furnished continuous movies at a local three-day celebration and Jenkins saw "Then It Happened" some 48 times.

On the serious side, however, it is interesting to note that this type of fire prevention is being released over major television stations and we believe that this is one of the most effective fire prevention programs for the general public that has yet been developed. There was an animated Smokey Bear who gave a fire prevention message.

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

### DISTRICT IV

Kings County enjoyed a small amount of rain this morning, apparently the rain-maker was lost for a short time and spilled a few drops of moisture down our way (very unusual).

Cotton picking time is here again, this means we must expect to be chasing small cotton fires the next four or five months.

We are losing some of our boys to the army and navy, causing frequent changes in personnel, a new driver at Avenal, Stratford and Burris Park. Considerable time is being spent on civilian defense program, organizing law enforcement and fire groups in the county. We wish to congratulate the boys in the north on good luck in having a nice rain,

which I am sure will improve fire conditions in that area, DON'T DO TOO MUCH BUCK HUNTING UP THERE, NOT FAIR.

Work is progressing on our new fire station at Hall's Corner, also, we are proud of our new truck and 2000 gallon water tank, which we have been badly in need of for some time.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

MARIPOSA COUNTY

The past month has seen a number of new people go to work in Mariposa County.

James C. Smallwood has taken a civil service appointment as a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman. Jim is a full-fledged carpenter and has been working for the Division the past 18 months at Miramonte. He obtained his first fire fighting experience at Cuyamaca in San Diego County. With the construction presently going on, a man who can readily identify a saw and a hammer is extremely welcome.

Robert Kent, who has been working as a Forest Fire Truck Driver in Tulare County has come to Mariposa County as civil service Foreman. Bob has been with the Division a number of years and we wish him every success in his new classification.

Two new civil service Lookouts have joined the "I want to be alone" gang. Charles Dewhirst has taken over at Guadalupe Lookout giving Art Biller a chance to renew his friendship with the boys at Mariposa Headquarters. Dewhirst has done some lookout work duty with the National Park Service. Joseph Budd is on the relief job between Green Mountain and Guadalupe Lookout. We understand he was previously in District V and we wish both of them a lot of firsts.

A number of our own men have joined the civil service ranks recently. C. Lloyd Munson to Forest Fire Fighter Foreman and presently at Hornitos Station. Sam A. VanGundy, Joe Costa, Ed Coble, Bill Haiste, Jess Brower, and John Beck as Forest Fire Truck Drivers. Joe is still sweating out his Foreman's appointment and Leonard Lowdermilk to Fire Crew Cook at Coulterville Station. Our congratulations to all of you.

H. L. Arnold
Associate Ranger

The maximum speed limit for fire trucks is 45 mph under ideal road and weather conditions. In most cases, it will be necessary to travel at a lower rate of speed. Rough roads, curves, blind corners, etc. will make it mandatory that you use common sense and travel at a safe speed at all times.

The use of the red light and siren does not give you the privelege of breaking all existing rules of safety. It is a Division of Forestry rule that all fire trucks will stop at ALL stop signs, going to and returning from a fire. Certain siren happy characters within the organization believing themselves to be "Little Tin Gods on a stick" have brought about

this ruling. This is not a new rule, all you older employees know that. You may read in the California Vehicle Code book that emergency vehicles may run red lights and/or stop signs. You as an employee of the Division of Forestry no longer have the "privelege." Any violations of this rule will not be tolerated.

With the great distances we usually have to travel to get to a fire, a few minutes one way or the other isn't going to make much difference on the ultimate size of the fire. Drive safely. Get your equipment and men on that fire in condition to do some good. Damaged trucks and injured men don't put out fires. Remember this the next time you get a fire call.

"If the fire is still burning when you get there,
Then you are there in time.
If the fire is out when you get there,
What in the Hell was your hurry?"

Richard G. Ballard
Assistant Ranger

The following letter was received in our District IV Headquarters:

"Dear Sir:

"I was in a very bad automobile accident near Orange Cove on the 17th of this month at about seven o'clock in the morning.

"It seemed within minutes after it happened, one of your foresters, Bill Sommerfeldt (FFF) and two of his helpers, Elmer Oldham and Jack Roberts, came to the scene of the accident. With very careful and considerate handling, I was taken to the Squaw Valley Fire Station. There the three men cared for me until an ambulance came to take me to the hospital.

"I wish to thank your Division for putting such kind and intelligent men in your fire stations. Please thank Mr. Sommerfeldt and his helpers for their kindness to me.

Yours truly

s/ Florence T. Aranson
524 No. LaJolla Avenue
Hollywood 48, California"

THIS AND THAT IN DISTRICT IV

To the welcome accompaniment of "resort" weather the smoke was cleared somewhat in District IV and our fire weary personnel are back to normal operations. The District's largest fire was the 32,000 acre affair in Western Fresno and San Benito County and combatted by forces from both District IV and V.

An interesting sidelight was a board of review that was held at Coalinga on this fire upon the control date and before key personnel were released. The discussion at times was comparable to the actual fire and prevailing temperature - hot - but many interesting points were brought to the

advantage of all. We can without reservation recommend immediate reviews such at this.

In a few short weeks this month Uncle Sam reached out and made soldiers out of the following men: Foremen Jim Smallwood, Bart Hodges, Jim Wright, Worley Dixon, Jack and Bob Wilcher, Gerald McCarty, and Driver John Thurman. The entire district wishes these men the best of luck and it is no secret we are "hurtin" for replacements, so hurry back.

We have acquired a couple of cub bears that have been getting a lot of favorable attention in the press and Valley exhibits which have been appropriately named Smokey and Pokey, The Fire Prevention twins. We might even loan them to any other District that would have need for a good prevention medium.

With checks getting later and later, an employee was heard to suggest that perhaps it might be a good idea to pay the field first--just ahead of Sacramento. Might be a good idea, who knows?

Dick Rafferty, District IV

FORESTRY RANGER LINDLEY RECIPIENT OF RED UNDERTHINGS

Forestry Ranger Curt Lindley is wondering who the gagster is who anonymously mailed him a red-dyed feminine undergarment for wearing during the hunting season.

It is a deep-dark secret how and why the particular item came to be sent to Lindley. However, close detective work developed the fact that the package was sent from Bakersfield with no return address.

If Lindley gets his associate, Sheriff O.H. Clyde, to investigate the case carefully, it is believed that some local culprit will be uncovered.

Meanwhile, if Lindley goes hunting decked out in his new finery, he will definitely not be uncovered. The garment was of an ample size.

Hanford - Sentinel
September 19, 1950



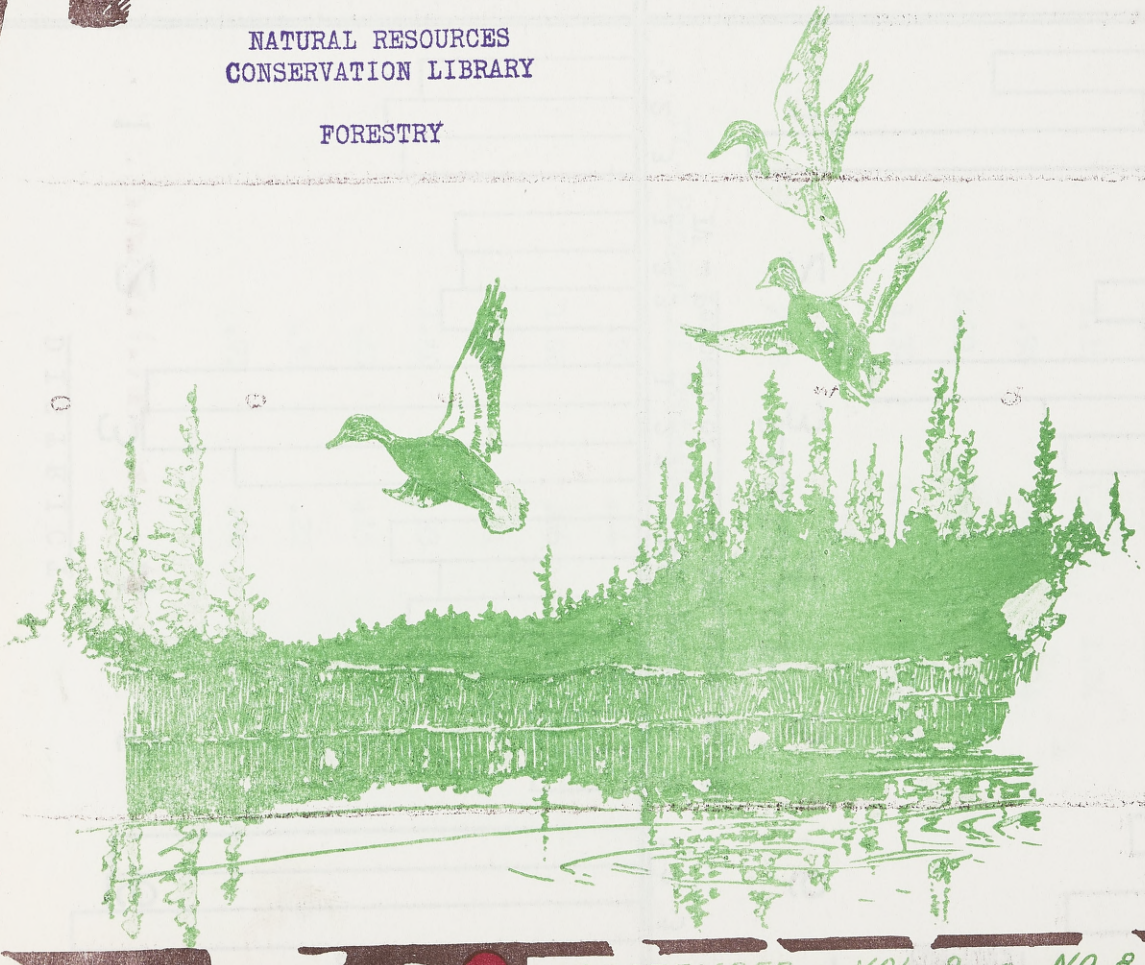
# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

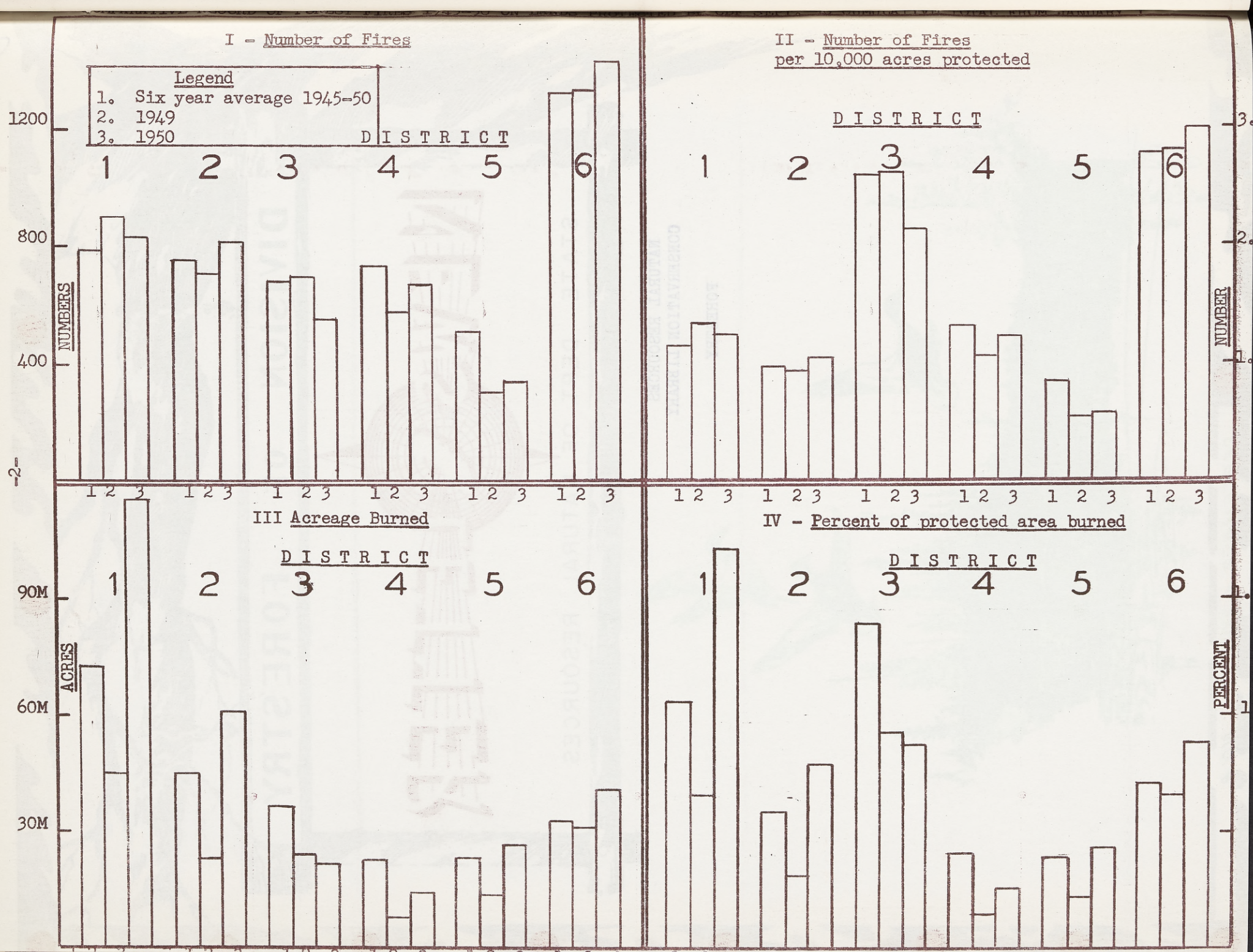
STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION LIBRARY

FORESTRY



SEPTEMBER - VOL. 9 - NO 8


I - Number of Fires
Legend
1. Six year average 1945-50
2. 1949
3. 1950
DISTRICT
1 2 3 4 5 6
1200
800
400
NUMBERS
1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3
II - Number of Fires
per 10,000 acres protected
DISTRICT
1 2 3 4 5 6
3.
2.
1.
NUMBER
1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3
III Acreage Burned
DISTRICT
1 2 3 4 5 6
90M
60M
30M
ACRES
IV - Percent of protected area burned
DISTRICT
1 2 3 4 5 6
1.
PERCENT

## I - Number of Fires

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 4,791 | 4,513 | 4,630 |
| District I | 794 | 893 | 841 |
| II | 759 | 714 | 801 |
| III | 678 | 681 | 555 |
| IV | 728 | 581 | 676 |
| V | 517 | 326 | 347 |
| VI | 1,315 | 1,318 | 1,410 |

## II - Number of Fires Per 10,000 Acres Protected

| | Av. 1945 1950 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 1.43 | 1.35 | 1.38 |
| District I | 1.17 | 1.32 | 1.24 |
| II | .98 | .93 | 1.04 |
| III | 2.59 | 2.60 | 2.12 |
| IV | 1.32 | 1.05 | 1.22 |
| V | .85 | .54 | .57 |
| VI | 2.78 | 2.79 | 2.98 |



## III - Acreage Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | 234,275 | 146,552 | 282,631 |
| District I | 72,240 | 45,042 | 116,153 |
| II | 45,332 | 23,915 | 60,853 |
| III | 36,743 | 24,414 | 22,872 |
| IV | 22,885 | 8,396 | 14,496 |
| V | 23,545 | 13,632 | 26,797 |
| VI | 33,530 | 31,153 | 41,460 |

## IV - Percent of Protected Area Burned

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| State | .70 | .44 | .84 |
| District I | 1.06 | .66 | 1.71 |
| II | .59 | .31 | .79 |
| III | 1.40 | .93 | .87 |
| IV | .41 | .15 | .26 |
| V | .39 | .22 | .44 |
| VI | .71 | .66 | .88 |

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

September 1st to 10th set a record in California for high temperatures and low humidity. Co-incidental with the weather was a series of fires throughout the State. During this ten-day period 152,000 acres of range, watershed, and timber land was burned.

Hunter patrolman positions have been established as an emergency measure in the prevention of hunter-caused fires during the 1950 deer season. Their purpose is to contact hunters on the ground and apprise them of the serious fire hazard and caution them against dropping burning cigarettes, leaving live campfires, etc.

The final completion of the radio modification job was accomplished on September 29. At the close of fire season the handie talkies will be brought to Sacramento to be modified.

The effect of the Korean War and National Defense activity has been felt throughout the Division by the loss of manpower to the armed forces and industry. To counteract the latter, some minor salary adjustments have been made in fire control classes.

Building construction and maintenance is progressing as rapidly as material shipments and fire conditions will allow. Except for minor details, the buildings at Slack Canyon C.D.C. Camp in Monterey County are now completed. The Friant Station in Fresno County has completed construction of pumice bricks for the new Sanger Station in Fresno and has also shipped several thousand bricks to our southernmost district. Forest and CYA crews are manufacturing shingles from waste redwood in the Mountain Home Forest for use state-wide. The pole and post treating vat at Ben Lomond CYA camp is now in operation and about 1600 fence posts have already been treated with preservative.

Consultations are being held with the Division of Beaches and Parks for the regeneration of the Cuyamaca State Park. A recommendation was made to salvage log the burned area and build access roads in preparation for a five-year plan of reseeding and a continuation of the snag-falling program.

The Automotive Equipment Committee has concluded revision of specifications for fire trucks, crew trucks, four-wheel drive, and fire pumping equipment. It now seems unlikely that the present order of 35 crew trucks and 15 fire trucks will be completed prior to the first of the year.

A nursery catalog is in the process of compilation and should be ready for distribution in November. This issue will not only provide information for the availability of State Nursery planting stock and how it may be obtained, but will also furnish valuable information on what to plant, when to plant, care in receiving trees, methods of planting, preparation of the planting site, and care of trees following planting. The catalog will undoubtedly be an aid in securing a higher degree of survival of trees planted.

| REAL REASONS WHY EMPLOYERS LOSE MEN | | REAL REASONS WHY MEN LOSE JOBS |
|---|---|---|
| Greater Security | 1 | Laziness |
| Better Opportunity | 2 | Disloyalty |
| Improved Location | 3 | Intemperance |
| Personality Trouble | 4 | Unprogressiveness |

REAL REASON WHY EMPLOYERS LOSE MEN (cont'd.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Employer's Unreliability | |
| Unprogressiveness | 6 |
| Bad Disposition | 7 |
| Lack of Appreciation | 8 |
| Poor Compensation | 9 |
| Internal Politics | 10 |
| Overtime, too often | 11 |
| Nepotism | 12 |

REAL REASONS WHY MEN LOSE JOBS

Emotional Instability
Dishonesty
Immorality
Talkativeness
Bad Disposition
Poor Health
Income Mismanagement

From THE PULSE - October 5, 1950

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR PRACTICING FORESTERS

The third forest management field school for practicing foresters in California will be held on November 13 to 17 at Quincy, California. These field schools are sponsored by the University of California, California Forest Protective Association, California Division of Forestry and the U. S. Forest Service in the interest of bringing results of recent research to the hands of practicing foresters. The purpose of the school is to make the results of research more readily available to those who can make best use of the material in the field.

This year's session follows two others held previous years on timber inventory and aerial photogrametric principles. The 1950 course will present the fundamentals of Duncan Dunning's studies of forest management by unit area control in California. Simply, unit area control is the management of the homogeneous silvicultural groups or units in the forest stand so as to best obtain regeneration or growth after cutting. This material should be of considerable interest to those foresters working for lumber companies or timber holding companies whose lands are operated on a sustained yield basis. The entomological and pathological considerations of unit area control management will also be covered.

The subject matter will be presented by the staffs of the silviculture section of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, the U.S.D.A. Forest Insect Laboratory at Berkeley, and the Division of Forest Pathology of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

PLACER COUNTY

The following social item probably will be appearing about 1968: "Joyce Estelle and Janice Elizabeth Green, twin daughters of Ralph and Sally Green, are to be graduated this evening from the local high school. Being the only twins in this year's class they were asked to give a short summary of the conditions surrounding their debut into the world. Our reporter gives this account of his interview with the twins:

REPORTER: "What is your birthday?"

JOYCE: "October 6, 1950."

REPORTER: "Were you on time or did you keep your parents waiting?"

JANICE: "Well, first the doctor predicted one of us on September 29 but when he decided to double his estimate, he advanced the date to September 15."

REPORTER: "Then you were a little late. What effect did that have?"

JOYCE: "Daddy then was an Assistant Ranger working in Placer County. He had been planning to go deer hunting but was afraid to get out of contact too long so he went out for an early morning's hunt near home but was so nervous that he missed several easy shots."

JANICE: "He used to say that his experience with the Division of Forestry during the summer of 1950 put him in good trim for walking the floor with us during the winter. There was no difference in mileage traveled - in fact, we may have accounted for more distance - but at least his walking us was on a level surface."

REPORTER: "What did you weigh when you were born?"

JOYCE: "I was 7 pounds 9 ounces and Janice was 9 pounds 10 ounces!"

(Ed. note:--Both twins and Sally are doing fine. Father, Assistant Ranger Ralph Green, is expected to be up and around within a week or so.)

Emery Sloat
State Forest Ranger

HUNTERS NIGHTMARE

Our deer hunter patrolman has beenbringing back some very amusing tales from the hunters about the "big buck" that got away. Here is one that was told to our patrolman by a friend of Mr. Dick Rafferty.

It seems that this hunter wanted an extra nice set of antlers for a gun rack for his den. Hearing that big bucks were plentiful in the State of California he talked his boss into letting him have a vacation so that he could make a hunting trip to that fair state of plentiful big bucks. He was very lucky as hunters sometime are in a strange country, as he was only gone about twenty minutes from his camp when he came upon a big three point buck feeding in a small clearing.

He raised his trusty 30-30 carbine and downed the big fellow with what appeared to be a fatal shot rushing over to where the buck lay, he drew his hunting knife to administer the "coupe de Grace", then noticing the splendid set of antlers he could not resist the temptation of placing his carbine on the antlers and stepping back a few paces to view the results. He was startled and amazed to see the big buck come suddenly to his feet and go trotting into the brush carrying on his antlers his trusty 30-30 carbine. Although he spent severalhours searching through the brush where the buck disappeared, it was to no avail as he did not find his trusty carbine or the buck.

MORAL: Don't count your bucks before they are sacked.

Wm. J. Shimer, Assistant Ranger
Mariposa County

DISTRICT IV

As this is the season of Fairs, it is thought that the following article by Harold G. Schutt, in the Tulare County Historical Bulletin about the World's Fair Tree may be of interest.

The most ambitious "Big Tree" exhibit was that shown at the World's Columbia Exposition at Chicago in 1893. A contract was made by Burr Mitchell, of Miramonte, to get the General Noble Tree, which was located about 3 miles north of the northwest corner of General Grant Park.

The tree was cut off about 50 feet above the ground. It did not fall as planned. The trunk slipped back onto the stump and broke the scaffold, and caused so much vibration that a man could not stand on the stump for 20 minutes afterward.

The tree was hallowed out and 14 foot staves cut with the bark and about 6 inches of wood. Then a section about 2 feet thick was cut off of the remaining stump and then another set of 14 foot staves was prepared. These parts were all marked and crated and hauled out and shipped to Chicago.

At the Exposition the following comment was heard, "Alas, the bigtree of California is a side-show, and one must pay 25¢ admittance, if he sees it at all! It stands in a line with other monstrosities--big cattle, etc. Little did we imagine that anything so venerable as a big California tree could be guilty of so disreputable a prank!"

After the exposition the section was shipped to Washington, and in 1894 it was placed in The Mall where it was an object of interest to thousands of visitors to the National Capital for many years.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

FRESNO COUNTY

We are losing and have lost four foremen to the Armed Services. Three Foremen, Bob Wilcher, Bart Hodges, and Jimmie Wright went into the Military Police Company, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. Gerald L. McCarty went back with the Armed Fire Service in Washington. We also had three drivers who were called into the Armed Services; these are James D. Taylor, Don U. Hall, and John B. Thurman.

On September 19, 1950, at 1 p.m., a Navy F8F Bearcat Fighterplane went down with the pilot four miles south of Coalinga. The pilot could not open the escape hatch, so he had to ride the plane to the ground. There was another fighter plane with him, and he returned to the Coalinga Airport to spread the alarm. Within the next two hours the State Division of Forestry personnel and the patrol plane, the Highway Patrol, Fresno Sheriff's office and the Navy were moving in to locate the downed pilot. The Navy had two Navy Beechcraft, one Army DC3, one Coast Guard Amphibian, and one Helicopter on the job. The pilot and his downed plane was found and in a short time

was on his way to the hospital in Alameda. The quick action by the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard, and State and County Personnel cooperated and worked together and got the badly burned pilot out and into the hospital in very short order, a fact which will probably save his life.

Associate Ranger Norman F. Nicholson from the Coalinga District has received his orders to report to Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan within the next 30 days.

Now that all fires in Fresno County are under control, we are back to normal and getting our construction program going full steam. We have constructed 50,000 pumice blocks of all kinds at Friant. All of these blocks went to District IV and District VI.

New Personnel: Transfers from Tulare County; Orval A. Ingram, Assistant State Forest Ranger, and Charles Rothgarn, Forest Fire Dispatcher. Replacement of Intermediate Stenographer Clerk, Ernest K. Shirakawa.

A. Roy Bengard, State Forest Ranger

A FIREFIGHTER IN KOREA

Not only does forestry fight on the home front, but recently we have had word that Virgil Spires, who was employed as a Fire Fighter at the San Jacinto Station in Riverside County for two seasons (1948 - 1949) is in Korea putting to use the training he received in Forestry. Virgil was wounded in action but we have learned from his parents that he has left the hospital and resumed activity. We wish Virgil the best of luck and hope he will soon return to Forestry to take up where he left off.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

FAN MAIL, HUGH?

The following letter was received in the La Mesa Headquarters Office, addressed, we presume, to Grace Rockwell, Intermediate Clerk, who does the radio dispatching at La Mesa:

Engine Co. 71, Zuma
Route 2, Malibu, Calif.
August 8, 1950

State Lady Dispatcher
State Division of Forestry
La Mesa, California

Dear Madame:

This is to notify you that your dispatching on the above date was received on our receiver very clearly and the boys on the "B" shift wish to commend you on your fine dispatching of the fires in that district on that date and in the past.

If you have time we would very much appreciate a letter from you and also a snapshot.

Admiringly yours,
The "B" Shift

The idea occurred to us to send them a snapshot of Grace's husband, Assistant Ranger Clark Rockwell, but that would have been a hard blow to the boys expecting a pin-up girl.

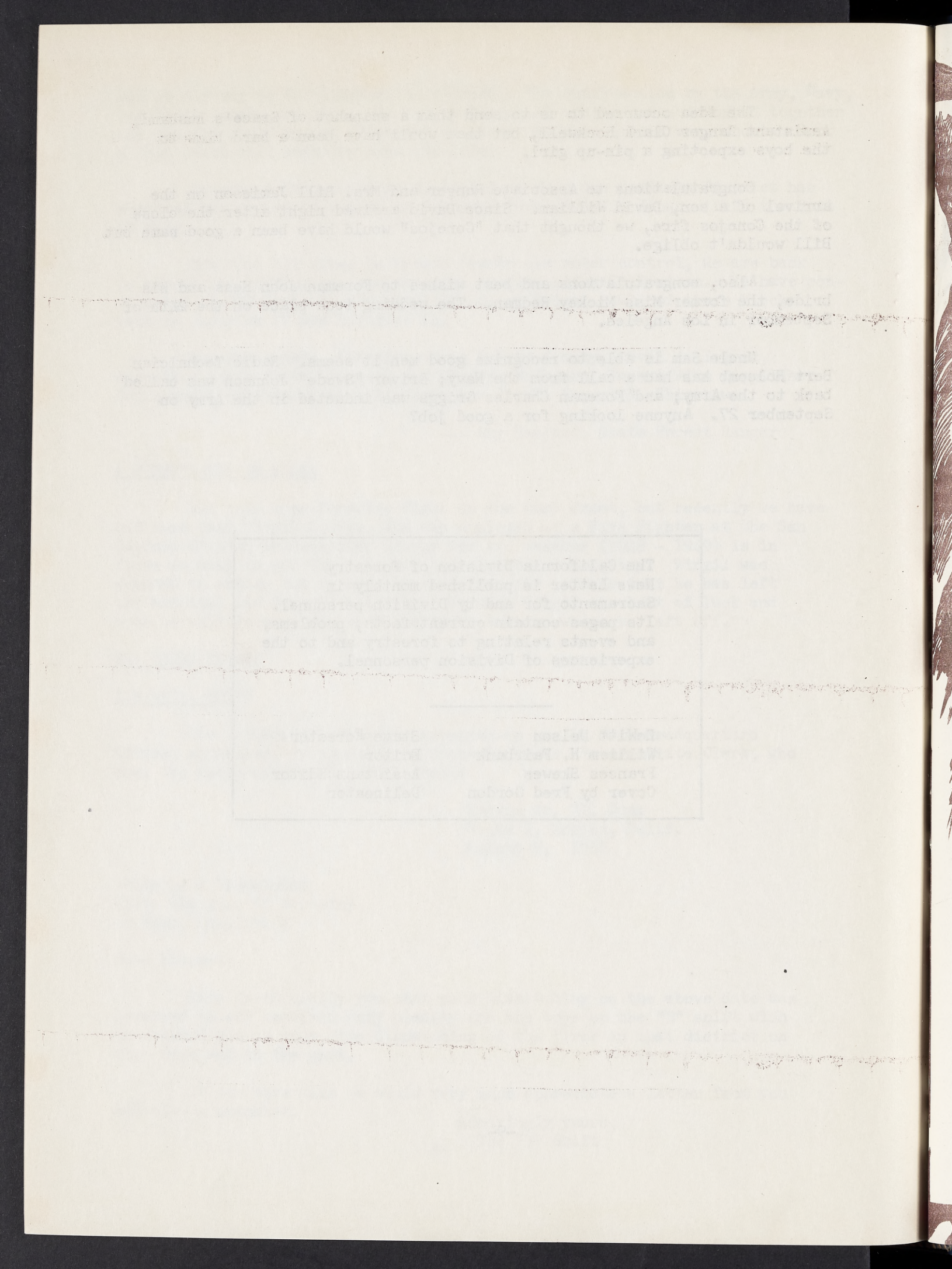
Congratulations to Associate Ranger and Mrs. Bill Jamieson on the arrival of a son, David William. Since David arrived right after the close of the Conejos fire, we thought that "Conejos" would have been a good name but Bill wouldn't oblige.

Also, congratulations and best wishes to Foreman John Hess and his bride, the former Miss Mickey Redman. The wedding took place on the 24th of September in Los Angeles.

Uncle Sam is able to recognize good men it seems. Radio Technician Bert Holcomb has had a call from the Navy; Driver "Swede" Johnson was called back to the Army; and Foreman Charles Griggs was inducted in the Army on September 27. Anyone looking for a good job?

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

| | |
|---|---|
| DeWitt Nelson | State Forester |
| William H. Fairbank | Editor |
| Frances Skewes | Assistant Editor |
| Cover by Fred Gordon | Delineator |



DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWSLETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES



OCT. & NOV. - VOL 9 - NO. 10 & 11


SEASON'S
GREETINGS

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Favorable fire weather conditions prevailed during October in all except the south coastal, southern San Joaquin, and Southern California areas. Several large fires burned in the southern part of the state, the most serious of which were in San Diego County. A severe storm occurred during the middle of the month bringing heavy rainfall to the north coast and northern areas of California. Light rain fell in the southern San Joaquin, south coastal, and Southern California areas during this period but was mainly confined to the mountainous regions. The fire season was terminated at the end of the month in the three northern districts and in parts of the south coastal and San Joaquin districts. Sufficient rainfall has not fallen in the southern part of the state to eliminate forest fire hazards. The October 31 cumulative summary of fire statistics shows a total of 2,351 forest fires starting this year on approximately 23,000,000 acres of forest, watershed, and range land under direct protection by the Division of Forestry. The comparable figure for 1949 was 2,504 and for the previous years were:

| 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1,860 | 2,398 | 2,524 | 2,598 |

265,827 acres were burned over this year in comparison to:

| 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 135,028 | 100,572 | 291,579 | 230,371 | 397,507 |

A September 30 range improvement summary indicates that some 450 applications to use fire on a control basis to clear brush land for range purposes were received by the Division. Of these only 191 applicants actually conducted range improvement burns during the summer period. About 72,400 acres were burned in the 191 projects. There were 75 requests for standby fire protection assistance and the Division was able to furnish such assistance on 50 range improvement burns. As of September 30, 69 range improvement burns were conducted in District 1 north coastal area burning 16,400 acres. 19,000 acres were control burned in District II in twenty such projects. District III showed a total of 46 burns involving 8,800 acres. In District IV there were 50 burns treating 27,500 acres. In almost all cases land owners involved in range improvement work showed an intense desire this year to conduct their burns in a safe manner. In the majority of cases adequate control lines were established by the rancher prior to the actual day of burning and sufficient help was on hand during the burn to keep the fire within its established control lines.

Some 4,000 white fir and red fir Christmas trees have been harvested from areas in need of thinning on the Latour State Forest under the supervision of Division personnel with CYA labor. These cut trees are being segregated by grade into lots of 500 trees and will be sold to the highest bidder per lineal foot for each separate lot. Sealed bids will be opened at 1:30 P.M. on November 14th in the Redding California Division of Forestry Office.

A proposed sale of some 4,500 additional Christmas trees on the stump to be cut and removed by the operator advertised for competitive sale on October 20, 1950, drew no bidders.

Because of the possibility of a serious infestation of pine beetles to private timberland in the vicinity of Shaver Lake, Fresno County, the Shaver Lake Zone of Infestation has been declared embracing approximately 24,000 acres of forest land. On October 12, 1950, the Board of Forestry passed a resolution authorizing the Division to enter into cooperative agreements with the timberland owners concerned to effect the necessary control work.

From field observations conducted by the Division in Southern California recently, it appears that serious forest insect infestations which will require State cooperation for control are developing. The insect activity was particularly noted in the following areas: Idyllwild, Lake Arrowhead, and the Cuyamaca Julian section. Steps have been taken to initiate control work in at least two of these areas before the end of the year with the cooperation of the local counties and the U. S. Forest Service.

During the week of October 16 to 20, the Division of Forestry with the cooperation of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Extension Service, and the University of California School of Forestry, sponsored a training session held at the Mendocino County Ranger Station on the subject of the development and use of the forest survey that is being conducted on some 10 million acres of privately owned wild lands within the state. This survey is currently in progress, having been financed by state appropriations and the work being done by the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. Some 37 participants attended this school. These men represented all federal and state, and some local, agencies dealing with land management problems.

Supplies and equipment for the water system of the Ben Lomond Branch Nursery have arrived at Ben Lomond and installation of this system is under way. The proposed nursery when operating at capacity should yield in the neighborhood of one million trees annually. It is hoped that the first sowing of tree seed can be done during the spring of 1951. An inventory of the experimental pilot nursery at Ben Lomond indicates that approximately 26 thousand 2-0 redwood and Douglas fir transplant stock, 9,000 1-1 redwood and Douglas fir transplant stock, and 400 2-1 bigtree transplant stock will be lifted for field planting this season. Because of the great demand for this stock, most of it will be sold locally in the South Coast District.

Emphasis has been shifted from the planning-purchasing phase to the actual construction phase of our building program. Good progress is being made on buildings constructed at 77 different locations in the State.

Construction has been stopped on the Parkfield Fire Control Station in Monterey County until a working agreement can be worked out with the various labor unions represented by the Building and Construction Trade Council.

Due to the limited use of Forestry personnel on our building projects it has been necessary to re-evaluate our entire construction program and to expend money only on the highest priority projects as no additional funds are presently forthcoming.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Division of Forestry activities during November were highlighted by torrential rains in portions of the State with subsequent floods and storm damage. In keeping with the Governor's order, available personnel took an

active part in rescue and evacuation work. Mobile and portable radio equipment was utilized to good advantage, and bulldozers, transports and pumping equipment were made available to those civil agencies heading emergency operations.

Santana conditions were bad in District VI. Equipment and drivers from other districts were sent to standby in the Southernmost district in event of fire emergency. On November 15 sufficient rain fell to relieve the outside equipment.

The construction program under the 1950-51 budget is progressing on schedule throughout the State on or ahead of the time anticipated.

The Dyerville Headquarters acquisition has been completed. The property is now deeded to the State. Leases have been approved by the Department of Finance for the acquisition of the Iron Mine CDC Camp in Placer County.

The 5,000 Christmas trees harvested from over-stocked areas on the Latour State Forest by C.Y.A. labor under Division supervision have been sold. These trees were sold on a lineal foot basis at prices ranging from $.36 per foot for silver tip trees of select grade to $.08 per foot for the mixed commercial grade.

Three forest insect control projects requiring State cooperative effort have been set up. These include the Boggs Mountain area, Lake County; San Jacinto area, Riverside County; and the Lake Arrowhead area, San Bernardino County.

In general the forest insect populations have been on the build-up in California. The forest area from the Stanislaus National Forest north looks fairly good. The area south of the Stanislaus National Forest and the Southern California areas have had a heavy increase in insect activity.

SPENCER NAMED MOST VALUABLE MAN IN LIVESTOCK WORLD

Sixty-five year old A. T. Spencer of Winter, Yolo County, member of the State Board of Forestry, was announced Wednesday October 18 by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce as the winner of a state-wide award for his outstanding contribution to the livestock industry.

A trophy was presented to him by the Chamber as part of special ceremonies marking the opening of the Grand National Livestock Exposition October 27.

Spencer was chosen for the honor by a committee of top agricultural, livestock, governmental and science leaders who met under auspices of the Chamber of Commerce.

A former president of both the California Wool Growers Association and the State Reclamation Board, Spencer was chosen for the award on five principal counts:

1. For his reclamation work over a period of 25 years, of brush burning, reseeding and management as means for range improvement.

2. For his help during 1950 in resolving difficulties between stockmen and the Wildlife Conservation Board over expropriation of deeded land for duck shooting grounds.

3. For his leadership in proper allocation of deer and livestock to lands where feed is available.

4. For his work during the twenties in clearing up foot and mouth disease.

5. For his part as originator and breeder of Romedale sheep--a breed that has gained high favor in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys and is becoming popular in other sections of the State and Canada.

Enterprise, Davis, California

PERRY THOMPSON TO RETIRE AS REGIONAL FORESTER

Perry A. Thompson, Regional Forester for the California Region of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, announced in November he will retire December 31 after 35 years in the Service.

Clare W. Hendee of Denver, Assistant Regional Forester of the Rocky Mountain Region, will succeed Mr. Thompson, according to notice received here from Chief Lyle F. Watts of the Forest Service. Mr. Hendee has 20 years' experience in forest resource management in western regions, gained in working from the ground up. With a degree of bachelor of science in forestry from Michigan State College, he started in the U. S. Forest Service in 1931. He served successively as forest ranger, assistant forest supervisor and forest supervisor of Ottawa National Forest in Michigan, 1931-39; supervisor of Superior National Forest in Minnesota, 1939-44; and supervisor of Mt. Hood National Forest with headquarters in Portland, Oregon, 1944-46. Since 1946 he has been in the Rocky Mountain States, in charge of recreation and lands management for that region.

"Pat" Thompson, retiring after a lifetime of public service, is nationally known for his contributions to forest conservation. Son of a "back country" newspaper editor, he grew up in the big-timber country of northwest Washington. He worked as a forest guard to finance his forestry studies, and received permanent appointment as forest guard in 1912 in Washington State.

After overseas service in World War I, Mr. Thompson survived some close escapes and scored outstanding achievements during critical fire seasons in the Pacific Northwest. From assistant regional forester at Missoula, Montana, he stepped to chief of personnel management for the Forest Service in 1939. He was chief of fire control for the Service during World War II, when Japanese incendiary balloons menaced western forest resources. He was promoted to regional forester of the California region in November, 1946.

U.S. Forest Service News Release
November 16, 1950

TREES FOR EROSION CONTROL

Hope for solution of erosion-control and reforestation problems in the Shasta Lake area is greatly encouraged by results of the Station's experimental work on the Kennett smelter-denuded area. This is the observation of C. J. Kraebel, who made a quick trip over the area recently.

The Kennett tests were made in the early 30's. Of the conifers planted at that time, ponderosa and Jeffrey pines are outstanding, some stands now being

40 feet high. Canopies have closed in the denser plantations, and a good pine-forest floor has developed. Survival of planted conifer stock was 80 percent or more. Seedspots, which covered a much larger area, gave poor survival, but scattered trees and groups from this source are beginning to bear seed. Of the hardwoods, tanoak has grown best, followed by coast liveoak and California black oak. Chinese tree-of-heaven, ailanthus, has done a remarkable job of controlling one gully, completely clothing it with cover.

Interest in planting and erosion control work has been renewed since completion of Shasta Dam. In 1949 and 50, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Reclamation have planted 200,000 pine trees from the Shasta nursery. As some gullies are so active that they are eating into and undermining old tree plantations and volunteer shrubs, gully controls have also been installed. These are simple check dams, the larger ones of rocks and the smaller ones of cut brush and soil. Sides of the gullies are staked with willow cuttings. More than 21,000 of the gully plugs have been installed. Bureau of Reclamation crews build them at the rate of more than 10 plugs per man-day.

Staff Notes
California Forest & Range Experiment Station
October 5, 1950

BRUSHLAND STUDY

A new study was started in October by the Forest Influences Division to survey the effect of past brushland fires on erosion, flooding, changes in water yield, and return of vegetation to the burned area. Case histories will be compiled for about 100 fires that have occurred in the foothill brushland and woodland area throughout the State during the past 25 years. These years include two periods of high, and two of low rainfall. The study should answer many questions as to the benefits and damages that follow controlled burns and wildfire in California. Because it will take a bird's-eye view of the effects of burning--in contrast to the microscopic view provided by small-plot studies, it should also provide valuable guides to the areas in which more detailed studies are needed. C. H. Gleason is working on the project.

PHOTOS AID FOREST

Here's another example of how Forest Survey data can be of direct help in forest management jobs. After the disastrous Wrights Creek fire on the Stanislaus National Forest, Hal Coons phoned K. E. Bradshaw asking for assistance in using aerial photos for salvage work. Our photo interpreters were all in the field, but Ken sent aerial photos on which the different classes of timber in the burned area had already been outlined by Survey workers. When he returned the photos this week, Hal had this to say: "....we keyed our salvage cruising to the photo types..... Whoever did the interpretation did an excellent job..... We found conditions on the ground to check almost perfectly with the photo interpretations.... The photos were of tremendous assistance to us in getting our sampling done in the areas where it would give us the maximum of information for the minimum amount of work."

Staff Notes
California Forest & Range Experiment Station
October 20, 1950

ELEPHANTS ARE A "FOREST PRODUCT".

That's right -- but we're speaking of forests in India. The August, 1950 issue of INDIAN FORESTER tells how foresters conduct round-ups of wild elephants to reduce their depredations and to obtain income from selling them. The round-up is called a "Khedda operation." The publication states, "The Mysore Khedda has now an almost international repute as one of the most thrilling and spectacular forest 'shows' which Indian forests offer to the sight-seer. The spectacular element is only incidental; the raison-de-etre of the operation is to capture a herd of elephants which is a valuable commercial 'Forest Product.'" The elephant is in demand for use in logging operations, as well as for palaces and zoos. And the Khedda protects the agriculturist from depredations by wild elephants that raid the fields fringing the forests.

EROSION THREAT

Greatest damage from the 63,000-acre Conejos fire on the Cleveland N.F. is likely to be increased sedimentation in El Capitan Reservoir, owned by the City of San Diego. This is the conclusion of several U.S.D.A. and county workers who inspected the burned area recently at the request of Forest Supervisor H. K. Pyles. E. A. Colman participated for the Station.

Some of the remedial measures that the inspection group thought necessary were: Sowing a cover crop of mustard and annual ryegrass in critical areas, construction of check dams in certain tributaries to keep sediment from reaching El Capitan Reservoir, and grazing restrictions on certain steep, erodible areas of the Capitan Grande Indian Reservation.

About half of the burn is on private, State, and Indian Reservation land. The National Forest half is high and rocky and is least amenable to remedial measures. The inspection team recommended that the City take the initiative on remedial measures for non-national forest land. Also, a more detailed study was urged to prepare specific recommendation for submission to the City.

After the meeting, Colman, T. R. Littlefield of R. O., and Descanso District Ranger A. Wright drove through a part of the burned area where several thunderstorms occurred after the fire. They saw that the storm had caused many small flows of soil and ash in burned drainages. But unburned islands in the vicinity showed no flows in their channels. (CF&RES STAFF NOTES, 9-14-50)

Administrative Digest
September 27, 1950

PUBLIC RECREATION AREA

Public recreation area at Lake Tahoe will be nearly doubled if the Forest Service can complete the acquisition of two estates that have been offered on a timber-exchange basis.

The E. J. ("Lucky") Baldwin Estate, about 2,500 acres, extending from Lake Tahoe to Fallen Leaf Lake; 6,500 feet of fine, usable beach on Tahoe and about three miles of shore line on Fallen Leaf; about 28 million feet of timber in virgin forest. Price, $750,000. The Baldwin family protected this area from the heavy cutting which resulted from the Nevada mining boom in the 1860's, and has declined higher offers in order to make this land available for public recreation.

The George A. Pope Estate, about 1,000 acres adjoining and south of the Baldwin estate; 3,300 feet of excellent beach on Tahoe, plus some meadow and a fine stand of virgin timber. Price, $175,000. The Pope family likewise is foregoing higher offers in order to make the land available to the public.

Negotiations are in progress, says Assistant Regional Forester M. M. Barnum, and it is hoped that acquisitions can be completed in time to have the lands available to the public next summer. The Baldwin and Pope heirs, nearby landowners and the Eldorado County Board of Supervisors favor the acquisitions. The lands would be added to Eldorado National Forest. At present, only a few thousand feet of usable shoreline of Lake Tahoe is available to the public. Existing public beach and campground facilities are overcrowded in season.

YOSEMITE BEARS

More visitors to Yosemite have been injured by bears this year than any year since 1939, according to Carl P. Russell, park superintendent. Eleven persons have sustained minor scratches and bites from bears this summer in this park. "While this is a small percentage of the 800,000 park visitors this year, it does reflect an increasing problem confronting the National Park Service in the protection of visitors from bears," Russell said.

(News release, Yosemite National Park).

Administrative Digest
September 20, 1950

FEATHER RIVER SCHOOL

Results of recent research was explained to private foresters November 13-17 at our Feather River Branch. This forest management field school was sponsored by University of California, California Forest Protective Association, California Division of Forestry, and the U. S. Forest Service. The course covered the principles of unit-area control, the method of cutting developed by Duncan Dunning and tested at Stanislaus and Blacks Mountain Experimental Forests during the past three years.

Staff Notes
California Forest & Range Experiment Station
November 9, 1950

MEDAL AWARD FOR FOREST GUARDIANS

A medal award to be made annually for outstanding service in defending human lives or forest resources in California has been established on a State-wide, perpetual basis by Harvey S. Bissell, it is announced by the award trustees.

The James McLachlan Bissell Medal is in memory of Mr. Bissell's son, who died from a rattlesnake bite on the Bissell Ranch near the Angeles National Forest. The elder Mr. Bissell now resides in the Virgin Islands.

Individuals or organizations knowing any person who may be worthy of the medal for 1950 should submit the name and case history to the Harvey S. Bissell Trust, c/o W. S. Rosecrans, 1151 South Broadway, Los Angeles 15, California, as soon as possible.

The medal will be awarded to a forest officer, company employee or any

other citizen for outstanding service in fighting forest fire; or for heroism or intelligent action that prevents or lessens damage to the forests or watersheds of California by fire or otherwise; or for safeguarding the lives of those engaged in fighting forest or brush fires in California.

Trustees are W. S. Rosecrans, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry; DeWitt Nelson, State Forester; William V. Mendenhall, Supervisor, Angeles National Forest; Spence Turner, Los Angeles County Forester; William R. Schofield, Executive Secretary, California Forest Protective Association; and Howard A. Miller, Executive Secretary, Conservation Association of Southern California.

The trustees hope the annual award will encourage forest fire prevention and suppression.

U. S. Forest Service News Release

FLOOD DAMAGE SURVEY

Jointly with the Region, the Station has been attempting to appraise both physical and monetary damages in the mountain areas from the November and December floods. This appraisal will supplement flood reports being prepared by the Corps of Engineers and the Geological Survey for the main damage areas in the Central Valley. D. M. Ilch, of the Station, and R. E. Lane, of the Regional Office, flew over most of the six southern Sierra Nevada forests during the past week to get a quick appraisal of high-country conditions and to scout some of the damages to improvements in the inaccessible reaches of each of the forests. At the same time two ground crews (R. E. Amidon, R. A. Dellberg, C. A. Davidson, and T. G. Storey) were visiting each of the forests to collect additional information on watershed conditions and physical damage areas and to obtain flood-peak determinations in certain of the ungaged mountain streams.

UNIT-AREA MANAGEMENT GETS A BOOST

If you intend to practice forestry in California, get acquainted with unit-area management. This advice pretty well characterizes the results of the mid-November forest-management school at our Feather River Branch.

John Zivnuska, University of California, in summarizing the three-day field session, put it like this: "Unit-area management is the first completely practical system advanced for bringing an area under sustained yield management. It may cost more per acre than current practices, but will probably cost less per thousand board feet."

Staff Notes
California Forest & Range Experiment Station
December 4, 1950

STATE RANGERS ORAL EXAMINATION

Recently approximately seventy candidates for the State Forest Ranger position appeared before a three man "Qualifications Appraisal Board" (oral board). The function of the Board is to learn directly from the candidate whether or not his education and experience are the minimum required, and whether his training and experience have developed in him the ability to perform successfully the varied duties of the ranger position.

the varied duties of the ranger positions.

Questions are designed to give the board a complete picture of any qualifying training and experience and to appraise such personal traits as ability to maintain cooperative relations with other agencies, good judgment, integrity, resourcefullness, tact, keeness of observation, and ability to address an audience effectively. Technical questions are used only as an aid in judging the candidates personal fitness or to verify his experience, education, and reading habits for self improvement.

Questioning by the board revealed some needs that appeared state-wide. They can be classified as both administrative and personal needs. There is a definite need to know where to find information when needed; what are the State Board of Forestry policies regarding fire, range improvement burning, operating areas, knowledge of the size of our State, acres of timberland, average annual number of forest fires, average acreage burned annually; need of knowing more about the policies and organization of our neighboring fire agencies. One should know more about effective supervision and organization as well as about present stumpage prices. Much of the above can be found in the Fire Control Manual, Forest Survey Release No. 4, and thru "keeness of observation" and "resourcefullness." Everyone who is and who aspires to be a State Forest Ranger should become more curious about everything about him because the present day ranger's job demands it.

DIVISION HELPS BATTLE CENTRAL VALLEY FLOODS

The recent heavy rains brought central California rivers to their flood stages three times since November 20th. Critical conditions developed in widespread areas each time and the Division was twice called upon to again display its ability to organize and move swiftly into action under emergency status.

High water during the 20th and 21st of November resulted in Forestry flood control participation in 12 general areas: Coloma, Marysville, Sacramento, Chowchilla, Madera City, Merced, Mariposa, Kings County, Piedra, Riverdale, and Laton areas, and the Visalia area.

The services performed included evacuation, constructing levees and dykes by both dozers and sandbag placement; assisting Red Cross activities and other local authorities; hauling of drinking water, traffic control, gauge reading, pumping out flooded areas, levee patrol for threatened breaks, and in every area providing communication facilities and service.

On December 3rd, Forestry again moved equipment and men into the threatened Sacramento area.

On December 4th, many of the above units were transferred to the Stockton area where they were reinforced by additional men, equipment, and the radio service was strengthened by the installation of three land stations.

All of this effort upon our part up to and including December 14th resulted in approximate expenditure of 9,800 equipment hours; 6,700 man hours and subsistence and travel cost of nearly $2,000. Estimated damage to Forestry property at this time totalled $42,834.00.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING HELD ON CONEJOS FIRE

A Congressional Hearing was held at San Diego on October 17 in regard to the 60,000-acre Conejos fire which occurred on the Cleveland National Forest, Cuyamaca State Park, and adjacent state-protected area last summer. The hearing was conducted by a subcommittee of the House Committee on Public Lands, headed by Congressman Engle of California. It was instigated by a group of property owners, some of whom had lost their homes in the disaster. Forest Supervisor Pyles ably presented explanation of fire conditions currently existing, strategy, and basis for various action decisions made. District Deputy Mace of the California Division of Forestry handled the complaint as to lack of coordination. He established beyond a doubt that there was the closest coordination of plans, interchange of information, men, and equipment between the Forest Service and State.

Information Digest - U.S. Forest Service
November 14, 1950

NEW FOREST PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Governor Warren has announced the appointment of two new members of the Coast Range Pine and Fir Forest Practice Committee to replace D. G. Christen and Pat Jackson both having resigned some months ago. New members are L. Frandsen, Land Commissioner, Southern Pacific Company; and H. R. Crane, Manager, Crane Mills, Corning.

## ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM NEVADA COUNTY

Our old reliable fire fighter of five years experience, Lowell E. Hiscox, has left us but it took a draft to pry him loose. Yes he has been working summers between school days for us as a fire fighter for five years. He was a duration Civil Service Fire Fighter during the war and has more seniority than a good many of our permanent employees.

What's this I hear about the CDF having feminine FEO's now? At least a radio message the other day I learned that one of Placer County's FEO's was on vacation and the 2nd was at home awaiting the arrival of a baby?

Regardless of the trend of most of the counties of the State this year in acreage burned, Nevada County had a very good season in only burning approximately 800 acres.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

GREETINGS FROM FRESNO COUNTY

It seems we have been missing from the NEWS LETTER for a long time. What with additional employees and the winter season breathing down our necks we find a little more time to devote to this publication.

Our Mid Valley Fire District is functioning pretty smoothly now that it is four months old. We have two new Assistant Rangers, Orvil Ingram, who

was transferred from Tulare County and Bill Jones a former dispatcher. We have opened two new stations and will be opening more as soon as our new equipment arrives.

We have another transfer from Tulare County. Chuck Rothgarn was transferred to fill our vacant dispatcher position. Chuck has been a dispatcher in Tulare County for the past three years. We are happy to have someone that has had previous experience and Chuck is doing a wonderful job.

Also on our list of new employees is Ernest Shirakawa, our Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk. Ernie came to work for us in the peak of the fire season with no previous experience in Forestry office. He rolled his sleeves up and dug in and we are happy to report he has done a man-size job in straightening out our personnel files.

We have to say so long for a while to Norman Nicholson, Coalinga Associate Ranger who was called to active service in the Naval Reserve. Good luck, Nick, and hurry back.

Bob Wilcher is home for a short time from his army duty at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. Bob got a fifteen-day emergency leave when his baby girl was stricken with spinal meningitis. We understand the baby is doing better now but is still in the hospital. Our sincerest wishes, Bob, for a fast recovery for your baby.

If you want to see a bunch of eager beavers take a trip out to our Sanger Station. The din out there is terrific from all the hammering and sawing. All the brick work is finished on the office, mess hall, ranger's and dispatcher's residence. In fact the mess hall is almost completed except for the kitchen stove. We are all anxious to move. We hope it will be early this spring.

A lady called the dispatcher late one afternoon and said, "I want to report a fire in my house in the 4900 block on Olive Avenue". Two trucks were immediately rushed to the scene. After a diligent search the drivers reported no smoke and several residents contacted knew nothing about a fire. The dispatcher called the lady who reported the fire. "Oh," she said, "The fire is not burning now. It was at 8:30 this morning and I put it out. I just wanted to let you know I had a fire." That's all, brother.

Don Moore
Forest Fire Dispatcher

FROM DISTRICT IV

James Dulitz is being welcomed into Mariposa County as the new Associate Ranger. Jim has been with the Division of Forestry for a number of years starting as a fire fighter in San Luis Obispo County before the war and as an Assistant Ranger in Tulare County since 1947 when he graduated from U.C. as a forester. In addition to his other accomplishments he is a licensed pilot and was used for air reconnaissance in this district during the summer, particularly on the large fire near Coalinga.

In keeping with the District policy of giving personnel as varied experience as possible to aid them in future promotional positions a shift has

been made possible by a vacancy in Western Fresno caused by the return of Associate Ranger Nicholson to the Navy. The men are moving as follows: Arnold from Mariposa to Tulare County, Hansen from Tulare County to Western Fresno County with headquarters at Coalinga, Higgins from Fresno to Madera County, and Moran from Madera to Fresno County. Arnold's vacancy in Mariposa County is being filled by the promotion of Assistant Ranger James Dulitz of Tulare County. The new assignments have been made to allow all Associate Rangers to receive training under different conditions, particularly in those counties which have a heavy Schedule A workload.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

PROGRESSIVE ANTI INCENDIARISM ACTION TAKEN BY MARIPOSA RESIDENTS

As you know we had a considerable number of incendiary fires this past summer. We tried several means of eliminating these fires with finally putting a stop to them about the 1st of September 1950.

For your information we wish to submit the following:

From July 30th to August 27th we had 10 incendiary fires burning approximately 2,000 acres of brush lands. After September 1st we had only two incendiary, both being cabins with no acreage involved.

About the 1st of September I appeared before the Mariposa County Farm Bureau explaining to them all the ramifications of the incendiary problem and how it would definitely affect our Range Improvement Program. The group as a whole were in full accord and I am sure had a great deal to do with aiding us to eliminate our incendiary problem.

Below find the item which appeared in the Mariposa Gazette following my meeting with the Farm Bureau.

"The following resolution was adopted by the Mariposa County Farm Bureau at their last regular meeting: 'Whereas, there is evidence that certain individuals have and are illegally setting fires which result in wide-spread damage to property, and whereas during controlled burning programs certain individuals start fires without lawful authority, which interfere with the control burning operations and also result in wide-spread damage to property. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of the Mariposa County Farm Bureau, represented by its board of directors, severely condemn such unlawful setting of incendiary fires and we urge that every effort be made to locate such individuals starting such fires for the purpose of punishment. We recommend that they be punished to the full extent of the law. We further recommend that a copy of this letter be sent to all newspapers and that it be circulated as widely as possible.' This resolution was unanimously adopted by the board of directors of the Mariposa County Farm Bureau at their regular meeting held in Mariposa, Monday, August 28, 1950."

Bruce Hufford
State Forest Ranger

MARIPOSA COUNTY

With a hectic fire season behind us Mariposa County CDF personnel were once again able to breathe easily and start making plans for winter projects.

As with the rains that start in the Fall, so the C.Y.A. returned from Mountain Home to Mariposa to set up housekeeping at Mariposa Headquarters. We were happy to welcome back Mr. Shire, Mr. Watts, Mr. Opheim and Mr. Wiesner, C.Y.A. Supervisors. We were sorry to hear that Mr. Smiley would be leaving for Coarsegold, but we wish him the best of luck in his new position as Program Director.

This winter will find George Barnhill completing his pet project, the stonewall around Mariposa Headquarters office. We wish to put George in for a Medal of Commendation for the fine masonry work he is doing on this wall.

Assistant Ranger John Rosar will be very busy, along with Foreman Louis Jones, laying brick for his new messhall at Cathay Fire Control Station. Foreman James Smalley, along with Assistant Ranger G. R. (Bull of the Woods) Light, will put up the exterior brick walls of the Usona Barracks.

The recent storm that started on November 18 left a great deal of havoc in its wake, completely demolishing the new dam on Stockton Creek which was the source of water supply for the newly formed Mariposa Water District. On Sunday morning, November 19, Associate Ranger Arnold, Assistant Ranger Rosar and FEO Clarence Tedrow moved in with our bulldozer to aid the Highway Department in clearing the road from Briceburg to El Portal on Highway #140 (the all year highway from Merced to Yosemite). The task was almost impossible, but Mariposa CDF personnel like to do the impossible, since the Merced river had washed away complete sections of the highway. However, a passable road was blazed through to El Portal.

By the time this reaches print Foreman Larry Bullis will in all probabilities be a boot for the U. S. Coast Guard. Bullis, along with Joe Cabezut and Ray Gusky, signed up at the Coast Guard Recruiting Station for a hitch in the aforementioned branch of the service. When signing up they stated that they had been CDF employees, so the recruiting sergeant is sending them to Conn. and the Atlantic Ocean as he felt that the Pacific was too calm for men who were Division of Forestry Smoke Chasers.

Assistant Ranger Bill Shimer and Foreman Richard 'Dick' Lozier will don the latest style in coveralls and paint Penon Blanco L. O. interior so lookout Ray Adams will have a newly decorated "Eagles Nest" when he returns in the Spring to roost for the summer fire season.

Other projects on tap for this winter will be brushing of phone lines, fixing roads, and other miscellaneous projects.

George L. Carhart
Forest Fire Dispatcher

FRESNO COUNTY

Fresno County is due for some new faces as are the other counties in District IV. Already working in Coalinga is Associate Ranger Jack Hansen from Tulare County who replaced Associate Ranger Norman F. Nicholson who was recalled to active Naval duty in Japan recently. Soon to be transferred around the first of December is our Associate Ranger Raymond R. Higgins who goes to Madera County for a new positional tenure of duty while Bob Moran formerly of Madera County moves in.

Our Fresno County Forestry personnel were kept busy during this latest Central California flood. Rangers Bengard, Higgins and Slinkard, and various other fire control personnel were in the muddy thick and thin helping vacate the people from the island near the Piedra Station on the Kings River for several days. These refugees were temporarily housed at our Piedra Fire Station after the flood water washed away property, equipment, and livestock, etc. As this was a state-wide emergency situation, our handy talkies were loaned out to the disaster corp in the Laton area. Ranger Bengard lent a helping hand in combatting the flood plus aiding the refugees get to safety.

A. Roy Bengard
State Forest Ranger

The month of October was a sad one for Associate Ranger Norman Nicholson. On the 25th he was recalled to active duty in the Navy, with Yokasuka Japan as his new address.

At the time this is being written he is still in the Receiving Station at Treasure Island but expects to be on his way soon. We all wish him all the luck in the world and hope he returns to "active duty with the Division" soon.

The Sunday before Nick left the Coalinga Station was the scene of a surprise party in his honor. About 50 people were on hand to partake of fried chicken, various kinds of salad, cake and icecream and to wish him luck and a speedy return. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a pocket size camera to Nick from all boys and some of his friends in town. The party was a success and Nick left with the feeling that "maybe after all Coalinga wasn't the dry old hole" he thought it was when he came here two and a half years ago from Tulare County.

Richard G. Ballard
Assistant Ranger

On November 10th last, District IV held its second annual District party. It was a roaring success even though the bears, Smokey & Pokey were not there to growl. However, Smokey was there personified with the Miramonte crowd and all counties were well represented at the party.

Here's a bouquet to Sacramento Office's Dorothy Lewis, who represented the State Forester at our party. Dorothy, we hope you enjoyed yourself.

We would like to pay a return compliment to Sacramento by as many of the District personnel as possible attending the Sacramento Christmas Party. We know it too will be a howling success.

F. W. Zubke
CDC Camp Supervisor, Miramonte

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

DeWitt Nelson, State Forester
William H. Fairbank, Editor
Frances Skewes, Asst. Editor
Cover by Fred Gordon, Delineator



JAN 1 1951